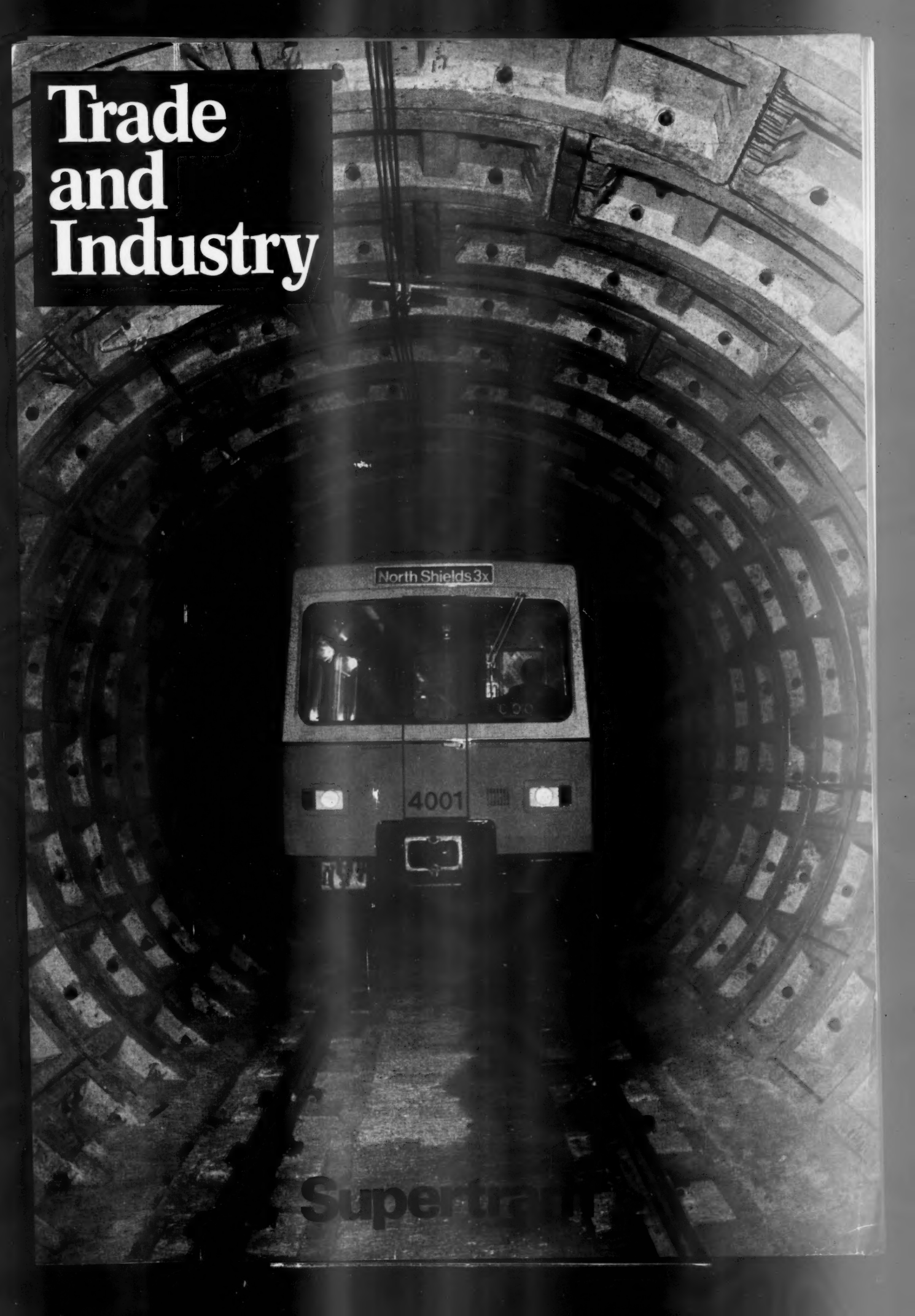
Trade and Industry



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Trade and Industry

26 September 1975

News from the Departments of Industry·Trade·Prices & Consumer Protection

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Trade and Industry

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Home News

UK initiative through IMCO against sub-standard ships

'We have felt it right to take the initiative in proposing new moves against sub-standard ships,' said Stanley Clinton Davis, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Companies, Aviation and Shipping, when addressing a meeting of the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organisation (IMCO) Maritime Safety Committee in London on 23 September.

Mr. Davis said: 'I do not underestimate the difficulties which some countries who are short of qualified marine surveyors and inspectors have in ensuring that high standards of safety are maintained, especially when ships for which they are responsible seldom visit their shores.

'I welcome recent moves which some such countries have made to develop their inspection services or to seek advice on how best to do so. I hope too that we can develop further through IMCO the machinery for reporting the results of investigations into maritime casualties. The more we all know about their causes, the better informed will be our efforts to improve and enforce safety standards.

'The new Convention, agreed at the 1974 Conference on the Safety of Life at Sea, not only incorporates many improvements developed in the MSC and its sub-committees over the years, but, when ratified, it should permit amendments to enter into force more quickly.

'My Government is most anxious to see the 1972 Collision Regulations and the important 1969 Amendments to the Marine Pollution Convention, which we have long since ratified, entering into force very soon. We intend to ratify the 1974 SOLAS Convention as soon as the Parliamentary timetable allows. IMCO needs effective amendment procedures and, we believe, more effective means of bringing pressure to ensure greater compliance with international agreements. This is, I know, very much in the minds of delegates to the MSC.'

Meat distribution – prices and margins

Meat reaches the housewife at a price per pound about three times that which the farmer receives. But by far the greater part of this uplift is due to the loss of weight involved in converting a live animal into a product suitable for retail sale. Weight loss alone makes the retail price some 2½ times higher than the farm-gate price.

Distributors' margins – which have to cover all the costs of distribution before any profit is earned in a highly competitive trade – account for the difference between the factors of 2½ and 3. These margins therefore constitute a relatively small part of the final price of meat.

This is the general conclusion of the Price Commission report* on prices and margins in meat distribution which was published on 25 September.

* Prices and Margins in Meat Distribution, Price Commission Report No. 7 (HMSO £1).

Two more Government factories for Doncaster

The English Industrial Estates Corporation announce that work is about to start on projects worth over £200,000 involving the construction of two advance factories of 1,350m² (15,000 sq. ft.) on the Shaw Lane Industrial Estate, Doncaster, for the Department of Industry.

Contracts for building these factories have been awarded to Sir Lindsay Parkinson and Co. Ltd., North East Building Division, of Leeds; architects for the project are Abbey and Hanson Rowe and Partners, of Huddersfield, and the quantity surveyors are Turner and Townsend, of Leeds.

Work is due to start early in October and the premises should be ready for occupation by May 1976.

Government asks Royal Commission to carry out urgent study of national press problems

The Government has asked the Royal Commission on the Press to carry out an urgent study of the immediate problems facing the national newspapers and make recommendations by early 1976.

The request was made in a letter from Stanley Clinton Davis, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Companies, Aviation and Shipping, to Professor O. R. McGregor, Chairman of the Royal Commission.

The text of the letter is as follows: 'The Government is aware of anxiety on both sides of the national newspaper industry that the Royal Commission should give urgent assistance to a joint consideration of the immediate problems facing the national newspapers. It is obviously desirable that those short-term problems should be considered against the background of the Commission's longer-term thinking, and indeed they are a relevant part of the data for the longer-term review. In the absence abroad of the Secretary of State, Mr. Peter Shore, I am therefore writing to ask that the Commission should arrange within its membership for a small group to consult with both sides of the industry in considering the immediate problems, and to recommend what are the appropriate courses for dealing with them.

'The terms of reference of such a group might be:

> "Having regard to the immediate economic pressures on the national newspaper industry while the Royal Commission is considering the future, to examine urgently the financial situations and immediate prospects of the national newspapers; the scope for increasing revenue; the possibilities of reducing costs and increasing productivity both with existing technology and with the new technologies now coming into use; implications for employment at all levels and ways of ensuring that change where necessary is made in a socially acceptable way; and, with the object of maintaining a healthy, independent and diverse industry in the meantime, and without prejudice to the Royal Commission's ultimate recommendations, to recommend ways to deal with the immediate problems."

'This is a demanding task, and we cannot set you a firm timetable in advance; but we hope that you could aim to conclude it by the end of January 1976.'

Lord Beswick visiting US aircraft manufacturers

Lord Beswick, Minister of State for Industry with responsibility for aerospace matters, is currently visiting US West Coast aircraft manufacturers (25 September to 2 October).

He is visiting the Lockheed Aircraft Corporation and the McDonnell Douglas Corporation in Los Angeles, and the Boeing Company in Seattle. There will be an opportunity for wide-ranging discussions with senior management and for tours of some of the plants.

While in Los Angeles, Lord Beswick will address the British American Chamber of Commerce, and in Seattle will open a British store promotion at the Nordstrom department store.

At the turn of every tide a JCB 807 crawler excavator goes for a 'paddle' at John O'Groats, where a £164,000 harbour development scheme is being carried out on behalf of the Highlands and Islands Development Board and the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. The 807, which belongs to A. and D. Sutherland, of Thurso, moves down the tiny beach into the sea to resume digging large quantities of rock after drilling and blasting. The Comex Civil Engineering Co. is deepening the harbour by 5m (16 ft. 5 in.) and building and extending two piers. The scheme will improve conditions for local fishermen and give better protection for small vessels seeking shelter during winter storms.

Statistics and the small firm seminar

Ways in which official statistics can help boost the efficiency and performance of small businesses will be explained at a free evening seminar at the Department of Industry's Small Firms Information Centre, Maid Marion Way, Nottingham, on 1 October (7 pm).

The seminar, appropriately entitled, 'Figuring the Future', is the first of a series organised by the Centre and is designed specifically for the benefit of small local firms and businesses.

'To some people official statistics are a closed book, but if they only realised how to interpret and use these various facts and figures they could be of enormous benefit to them,' explains Ray Parr, Manager of the Centre.

'This first seminar will try to make official statistics better understood and show ways in which they can be used by industry to monitor and improve both efficiency and performance.'

Two experts on statistics will speak at the first seminar, which will be supplemented by a display of the wide range of official statistical publications, particularly those of potential value to industry and business.

Clive Bates, of the Business Statistics Office, will describe the variety of official statistics available covering virtually every aspect of the country's industrial and commercial activities. He will be followed by Mr. E. G. Wood, Director of the Centre for Innovation and Productivity at Sheffield Polytechnic, who has had considerable experience of the problems of small firms. Mr. Wood will outline how small firms can use statistics to their advantage by monitoring their performance and keeping abreast of market and other developments.

Other subjects in the series include the Health and Safety at Work Act, Energy Conservation, and the Employment Protection Bill. A central theme of all the seminars will be the effects of Government legislation on industry and how these can best be met by the individual firm or business.

Seating at the seminars, for which there is no charge, is limited and businessmen wishing to attend are asked to telephone the Centre at Nottingham 49791.

Do you use statistics?

The Government Statistical Service (GSS) prepares a wide range of reliable and detailed figures on the United Kingdom. It is usually worth checking to see if what you want is available from them. You can see many Government statistical publications at your local public library, buy them from HMSO or refer to the comprehensive collection held at the Statistics and Market Intelligence Library, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4N 7HU (tel. 01-248 5757 ext. 368).

A free pamphlet, *Government Statistics – a brief guide to sources*, gives up-to-date contact points in Departments for further information. You can obtain copies from regional offices of the Department of Industry or by writing to the Central Statistical Office Press and Information Service, Great George Street, London SW1P 3AQ.

These divers of Comex Diving Ltd. preparing for underwater work near the Transworld '58 oil production platform in the North Sea carry special helium and oxygen breathing gas mixtures. Supplied by Air Products Ltd., this gas mixture is particularly suitable for divers working in depths greater than 180 ft.

Patents endorsed 'Licences of Right'

Under Section 35 of the Patents Act 1949 the following patents were endorsed 'Licences of Right' on the date specified.

Number	Grantee	Subject-matter
8 September 1975		
1,291,807	Societa Italiana Resine SIR SpA	Improved composition and method for the dispersion of oil pollution
1,298,418	Societa Italiana Resine SIR SpA	Method of preparing titanium tetrachloride
1,304,977	Societa Italiana Resine SIR SpA	Tubular condensers for multi-stage flash evaporators
1,272,751	Kathleen Mary Likeman	Improvements in the burners of gas cookers and portable cooking appliances
1,273,205	Lafarge	Artificial mineral fibres
1,333,861	Physics International Co.	Mass flow metered fuel injection system
1,368,676	International Standard Electric Corporation	Method for interconnecting the selection stages in a switching network
1,385,808	Sunbeam Plastics Corporation	Overcap for an aerosol dispenser
10 September 1975		
1,370,836	Friedrich Kocks	Improvements in article bundling apparatus
1,373,798	Friedrich Kocks	Improvements in rolling mills
1,374,027	Friedrich Kocks	Improvements in rollers
1,376,759	Friedrich Kocks	Improvements relating to rolling mills
1,378,760	Friedrich Kocks	Improvements in roller beds for cooling and straightening elongated round articles
1,378,821	Friedrich Kocks	Improvements relating to rolling mills
1,277,789	Laboratoires Jacques Logeais	Improvements in or relating to new polycyclic pyrrole derivatives
1,326,986	Magyar Allamvasutak	Method and device for detection of rail vehicle wheels having damaged contact surfaces
1,363,691	Tokyo Tanabe Seiyaku Kabushiki Kaisha	Benzothiazole derivatives
16 September 1975		
1,131,711	The British United Shoe Machinery Co. Ltd.	Improvements in or relating to apparatus adapted for use in forming a seam between two portions of sheet material
1,288,371	The British United Shoe Machinery Co. Ltd.	Improvements in or relating to the folding of edge portions of work-pieces

Any person who claims that the patentee at the time of endorsement of any of the above patents was precluded by a contract in which claimant is interested from granting licences under the patents may apply for cancellation of the endorsement on Patent Form No. 45 within two months after the date of endorsement.

E. Armitage
Comptroller

Industrial news pictures

Pictures are published in *Trade and Industry* each week showing developments in British industry. If your company has introduced an interesting new product, if you have received an award, if you have developed a novel manufacturing process, if you have produced the biggest or smallest or heaviest or (you feel) the best designed product, you are welcome to send us a photograph with a short news story.

Contributions should be sent promptly – while the subject is still newsworthy – to the Editor, *Trade and Industry*, Room 439, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.

Minister visits Luton Airport

Stanley Clinton Davis, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Companies, Aviation and Shipping, visited Luton Airport on 19 September, as part of the Government's review of regional airport development.

He toured the airport, and heard the views of airport owners, and representatives of management and trades unions about the way in which they saw the airport developing in the future.

National Film Finance Corporation managing director reappointed

Peter Shore, Secretary of State for Trade, has re-appointed John Terry as Managing Director of the National Film Finance Corporation for a period of three years from 1 October 1975.

Mr. Terry joined the National Film Finance Corporation soon after its inception in 1949, as Solicitor, was Secretary in 1956 and has been Managing Director since 1958. In August this year he was appointed Chairman of the Working Party on the film industry, set up by the Prime Minister.

English Tourist Board appointments

Peter Shore, Secretary of State for Trade, has reappointed the following members of the Board of the English Tourist Board: Colonel W. Adkins and Mr. Michael Dower, both for one year; and Mr. Derek Gladwin for three years.

He has also appointed two new members; Sir Lou Sherman for two years and Mrs. Anne Yates for three years.

One further appointment will be made shortly.

Civil aviation's 'worst year' – CAA's annual report

The financial year 1974/75 was 'the worst year in living memory' for the civil aviation and air travel industries, says the Civil Aviation Authority in its annual report*. This was highlighted by the collapse of Court Line and its associated travel companies. In these circumstances it became more important than ever for the industries to pursue realistic policies related closely to the demands and size of the market, and the Civil Aviation Authority throughout the year exercised its influence, and where appropriate its powers, to lead these industries in that direction.

The Authority has subjected its own costs to the closest scrutiny in order to achieve economies wherever possible in its operations. At the same time the Authority has not lost sight of the long-term requirements of civil aviation, in anticipation of the resumption of growth in a few years' time, and has continued with its plans for improving air traffic control systems and safety standards generally.

The major financial problem confronting the Authority throughout the year was the discharge of its duty under the Civil Aviation Policy Guidance, approved by Parliament, to recover its costs from the users of its services, with a view to dispensing with the Government grant by 1977/78. Despite substantial increases in the CAA's charges and fees made and proposed during the year, progress towards self-sufficiency has been largely undermined by the unprecedented rate of inflation in the national economy which has been reflected in the Authority's own costs.

The shortfall between the Authority's income and expenditure in 1974/75 amounted to £43 million as against £31 million in 1973/74. Most of this was in areas of activity where the Authority does not have a free hand in determining charges. In those areas where the Authority can itself control charges, the operating deficit in 1974/75 was £12 million.

Route navigation services

More than half the Authority's expenditure is on *en route* navigation services, which last year cost £40 million out of a total expenditure of £70 million. As charges for these are not fixed by the Authority, but are determined by international agreement by Ministers in Eurocontrol, recovery of its costs is not within the control of the Authority. During the financial year 1974/75 the rate of recovery was only 30 per cent, and the amount recovered was further reduced by the present method of calculating charges in relation to costs prevailing at least two years earlier. The rate of recovery will be increased to 60 per cent in November 1975, and the Authority hopes that there will be 100 per cent recovery by 1977. Meanwhile it is also important that Ministers in Eurocontrol should agree on recovery on a current costs basis.

The biggest element of expenditure is salaries and wages, which amounted to some 55 per cent of overall expenditure. For nine out of the 12 months under review most CAA staff were seconded civil servants. Under the terms of the staff contracts agreed with the unions and approved by Government, which came into effect on 1 January 1975, the rates of CAA wages and salaries are linked with those determined by the Government for the Civil Service. The substantial increases in remuneration approved by the Government for the Civil Service in this period have therefore been reflected in the Authority's own expenditure.

The Authority has exercised particularly strict control of staff numbers. In view of the additional tasks undertaken or planned by the Authority since it was set up (such as licensing air travel organisers, stricter flight time limitations and mandatory occurrence reporting), as well as the introduction of a revised watch roster system for air traffic control, only very strict control has enabled the Authority to contain the increase to 150 people or 1.8 per cent over the past three years.

The widespread contraction of demand, following the deterioration of the economic climate, was reflected in the decline in 1974 of European inclusive tours and of non-scheduled UK-US traffic by over a fifth. Scheduled traffic in these areas fell by about a tenth.

On the North Atlantic this new situation necessitated certain adjustments in policy by both airlines and aviation authorities. With the encouragement of the British and US authorities, British and American scheduled airlines agreed to reduce capacity, and towards the end of 1974 British Caledonian decided to withdraw for the time being its scheduled services on the North Atlantic. In an attempt to improve the economics of North Atlantic charter services, the Authority decided to introduce on 1 April 1975 minimum wholesale and retail prices for advance booking charters. Meanwhile the Authority welcomed the agreement reached in IATA to introduce APEX fares on scheduled services. In February 1975 the Authority confirmed Laker Airways' 'Skytrain' licence, indicating however that it should not start until market conditions improved.

In Europe the Authority continued to explore the possibilities of introducing advance booking charters and decided to allow 'fly-drive' charters in 1975/76 on a larger scale.

One bright spot in the international context was the growth of freight traffic. In January the Authority announced a relaxation in the conditions governing freight charter services, and intends to consult the industry about further liberalisation.

Domestic services have generally remained unprofitable, and the Authority approved substantial increases in fares. Further increases will be necessary if British airlines are to achieve a reasonable profit on these routes.

Following the collapse of Court Line and its associated travel companies, the Auth-

Sea-Land Venture, 18,744 tons, owned by Sea-Land Services, New Jersey, in Southampton's Western Docks, undergoing machinery repairs by Vosper Thorneycroft Ltd. She was the third of the company's large, high-speed container liners to call on Vosper Thorneycroft's services for emergency repairs. The principal task was the removal of the main boiler's forced-draught fan motor for re-winding. Other work included examination and repair of rectifier diodes on the main generator and the supply of a new cooling water pipe with flanges for the port forced-draught fan room.

* *Civil Aviation Authority Annual Report and Accounts 1974/75*, price £2.80. Available from Civil Aviation Authority, PO Box 41, CAA Central Library, Aviation House, 129 Kingsway, London WC2.

ority decided to increase substantially the bonds which air travel organisers must deposit as an insurance for travellers in the event of financial failure.

Considerable progress was made on airport planning. By the end of the year the Authority had formulated its advice to Government on airport development in both Central and Northern England, and also a general strategy for dealing with national airport planning. Interim reports were published on general aviation facilities in South East England and on helicopter operations in the London area.

There were no fatal accidents in the period involving large public transport aircraft on the British register.

The Authority's proposals for stricter flight time limitations reached a final stage with the establishment of a Flight Time Limitations Board and the necessary amendment in March 1975 to the relevant provisions of the Air Navigation Order. Preparations for a scheme of mandatory occurrence reporting also reached an advanced stage. A Safety Data Unit was formed to plan appropriate procedures for handling reports, and the Authority hopes, after the necessary legislative changes have been made, to put the scheme into operation early in 1976.

Towards the end of the year the Authority decided to require most British registered public transport aircraft to carry a ground proximity warning system – by mid-1976 for turbo-jet aircraft and by mid-1977 for other types.

The Authority kept in close touch with the US Federal Aviation Administration and manufacturers concerning cargo-door modifications to DC10 aircraft, and applied these requirements to DC10s on the British Register, as well as making a detailed study of doors on all large pressurised aircraft on the British Register.

The Authority's Airworthiness Division continued to devote a high proportion of its efforts to Concorde, leading up to its consideration for special category, type and full certification during the course of 1975.

National Air Traffic Services

While continuing their re-equipment programme, the National Air Traffic Services have sought ways of making savings in the short term. Efforts are being made to tailor services, especially at particular aerodromes, more closely to the needs of users and aerodrome authorities (eg, by curtailing the hours of availability) and also, because of the large reduction of aircraft movements over the North Atlantic, to slow down the introduction of automatic data processing facilities at the Oceanic Control Centre at Prestwick.

An important development in the reorganisation of the air traffic control system took place in January 1975 when the London Air Traffic Control Centre became responsible for most of the functions previously undertaken, in relation to Northern England, by the Preston Air Traffic Control Centre which was closed down. At the same time a new sub-centre was opened at Manchester to control traffic below 13,000 ft. in the immediate terminal control area and adjacent air routes. The new sub-centre incorporated certain improvements – brighter and clearer radar displays with more detailed information identifying aircraft and their heights – which had already been introduced at the London centre.

Plans for installing and operating new computer equipment – the 9020D – at the London Air Traffic Control Centre were completed on time. This computer is now providing both the London centre and Manchester sub-centre with automatic flight data, which marks the first phase in its development.

Plans were formulated for reorganising the London Terminal Control Area in order to achieve greater margins of safety. These changes were introduced in April 1975.

North Atlantic advance booking charters to stay for another year

The Civil Aviation Authority has decided that the control of minimum prices for advance booking charters on the North Atlantic, which was introduced this year on an experimental basis in order to improve the profitability of airlines and air travel organisers in this market, should continue for another year. It intends, however, to remove this control as soon as the market improves sufficiently to allow market forces to take over.

North Atlantic ABC retail prices 1976/77
London to New York and Toronto

	Current £	1976/77 £
1 April to 31 May	109	116
1 June to 30 June		124
1 July to 31 August	136	150
1 September to 15 September		124
16 September to 30 September	109	124
1 October to 31 October	109	116
1 November to 10 December	99	
11 December to 31 December	109	108
1 January to 31 March	99	

North Atlantic ABC wholesale prices 1976/77

	Pence per seat mile	
	Present Price	1976/77 Price
1 April to 31 May	.19	1.27
1 June to 30 June		1.35
1 July to 31 August	1.48	1.63
1 September to 15 September		1.35
16 September to 30 September	1.19	1.35
1 October to 31 October	1.19	1.27
1 November to 10 December	1.08	
11 December to 31 December	1.19	1.19
1 January to 31 March	1.08	

The new minimum North Atlantic ABC prices, which are for the year beginning 1 April 1976, show an overall average increase of about 9 per cent (examples below, left). Prices will vary according to four seasonal periods instead of the three as at present, and the prices of both the outbound and re-return sector will depend on the season during which each sector is flown, instead of the price applying on the date of the outbound flight as at present. Although in most cases the prices which passengers will pay will be higher, the effect of these seasonal changes is that in some cases they will be lower.

The Authority has decided to allow travel organisers to offer next year children's discounts of up to 25 per cent.

It has been decided to discontinue next year the differential in minimum retail prices between air travel organisers who sell directly to the public and those who sell indirectly through retail agents.

New member of the Civil Aviation Authority

Peter Shore, Secretary of State for Trade, has appointed Sir Henry Phillips a member of the Civil Aviation Authority from 1 November, in succesion to Mr. Norton Morling.

Sir Henry Phillips, who is 61, served for many years in HM Overseas Civil Service in Nyasaland (the independent State of Malawi since 6 July 1964) and was that country's Minister of Finance from 1961 to 1964.

On retiring from the Service he joined the Standard Bank and was Managing Director of its Finance and Development Corporation until 1972. He is a director of the Sifida Investment Company, which is concerned with development projects in Africa, and holds other non-executive company directorships.

The Trade Marks (Amendment No. 3) Rules 1975

These Rules which are published on the 26 September 1975 increase certain fees due on or after the 22 November 1975. Fees for the renewal of the registration of a trade mark paid in advance in respect of any period beginning on or after the 22 November 1975 are increased on the 22 September 1975.

As stated in the notices regarding the draft Rules published in *Trade and Industry* of 22 August 1975 (page 437) these increases result from the policy that costs of the fee-earning branches of the Patent Office should be met from fees charged to users. All the branches have been in deficit since 1972 and the deficits have continued notwithstanding the 90 per cent increase early this year. The present increase is the second step in bringing trade mark operations into balance. Trade marks show a proportionately larger deficit than patents and this accounts for the higher increase in trade mark fees compared with the recent increase in patent fees.

Copies of the new Rules (SI 1975 No. 1532) may be obtained from the Patent Office, Orpington, Kent BR5 3RD; from the Sale Counter, Patent Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, London WC2A 1AY, and from HM Stationery Office at the usual addresses, price 20p (by post 25½p).

Local price surveys qualify for Government grants

The first approvals of local price comparison schemes were issued last week by the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection. Each of the following shopping centres qualifies for a grant of £1,000 to cover the cost of local price surveys: Wood Green, Brixton and Streatham; Swansea and Neath; Newcastle.

The grants will cover the cost of collecting and publicising the prices of basic foods and other essential household items at the main supermarkets in the shopping centres and, in the case of meat, fruit and vegetables, at local butchers' and greengrocers' also. The surveys will enable housewives in the areas covered to compare prices in their local stores at a glance and identify the cheapest buys without having to visit all the shops.

Pilot surveys sponsored by the Department from Consumer Groups in various parts of the country have revealed that savings of up to 20p in the £ are possible on the weekly grocery bill simply by choosing the cheapest shop and purchasing the stores' 'own label' goods wherever practicable.

The Wood Green survey is under the direction of the Haringey Public Control Department, and those at Brixton and Streatham are run by the Lambeth Environmental Health and Consumer Services Directorate. Swansea and Neath surveys are directed by the Consumer Protection Department of the West Glamorgan County Council and the Newcastle survey comes under the Consumer Services Directorate of the Tyne and Wear County Council.

Weights and measures: report published

Metrication, decimalisation, the restructuring of local government and a wide extension of consumer protection legislation are the main changes which have taken place during the period covered by the latest Weights and Measures Report which was published on 18 September.

The report briefly surveys the major changes which influenced the administration of the Weights and Measures Act 1963 and examines the alterations in departmental responsibilities and functions exercised by the Secretaries of State for Industry and the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection.

Annexed to the report are appendices dealing with order-making powers exercised during the period, local authority structure, notable High Court appeal cases, and Statutory Instruments made.

Copies of the Weights and Measures Report (House of Commons paper 619) are available from Government bookshops, price 50p, or by post from HMSO, PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH. (55½p).

By administrative re-allocation most functions under the Act fall to the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection. The Department of Industry still have certain functions in relation to the custody and maintenance of the Primary Standard of mass and length: these are referred to in paras 6 and 7 of the report. The report has therefore been made jointly by the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection and the Secretary of State for Industry.

Chairmen of Post Office users' councils reappointed

Shirley Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, has reappointed Lt. Cdr. G. J. Harries-Burrington as Chairman of the Post Office Users' Council for Wales.

Commander Harries-Burrington has been Chairman of the Users' Council since August 1972.

The Secretary of the Council is Mr. M. G. Thomas, and the Council's address is 142-143 St. Helen's Road, Swansea, SA1 4DE.

Shirley Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, has also reappointed Dr. H. S. Corscadden as Chairman of the Post Office Users' Council for Northern Ireland. Dr. Corscadden has been Chairman of the Council since 1972.

The Secretary of the Council is Mr. G. L. Auret, and the Council's office is at Chamber of Commerce House, 22 Great Victoria Street, Belfast BT2 7PU.

Gas consumers' council appointments

Shirley Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, has appointed as members of the National Gas Consumers' Council, Mr. E. Fallon until 30 June 1976 and Miss E. Fanshawe, Mr. J. P. Hire and Mrs. D. Lambie until 30 June 1978.

Code of Practice for quantity markings on prepackaged products

In *Trade and Industry* of 15 August 1975 (page 370) we referred to a Code of Practice for use by manufacturers when converting indications of quantity either from imperial to metric or vice versa in line with the dual marking requirements of the new Weights and Measures (Marking of Goods and Abbreviations of Units) Regulations SI 1975 No. 1319. The Department of Prices and Consumer Protection has now completed work on the Code and copies have been sent to trade associations, enforcement authorities and consumer groups. Anyone who has not received a copy of the Code of Practice or who has questions about the interpretation of the Code should contact the Department at: Standards, Weights and Measures Division 2, Room 429, Abell House, John Islip Street, London SW1A O4A, (tel. 01-211 3895).

Review of the Trade Descriptions Act 1968 – more time for comments

Because of the widespread interest shown in a review of the Trade Descriptions Act 1968, published recently by a Government review committee, the period in which interested parties can submit comments has been extended to 30 November 1975.

The committee – headed by John Methven, Director General of Fair Trading – published its provisional conclusions in the form of a consultative document on 13 August. Comments were sought by 31 October but a number of local authorities and trade sources have stated that, because of the document's proposals and the interest aroused in them, they would welcome more time to consider, formulate and submit their views. The committee has therefore decided to announce a general extention of the period for submission of comments.

The address to which comments should be sent is: The Joint Secretaries, Trade Descriptions Act Review Committee, Office of Fair Trading, New Court, 48 Carey Street, London WC2A 2LD.

New price limits for bread in Northern Ireland

As from 22 September prices for non-standard bread loaves may rise in Northern Ireland. An Order* laid before Parliament on 16 September by Shirley Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, authorises increases in existing maximum retail prices of ½p for 14-oz, 1p for 28-oz, 1½p for 42-oz and 2p for 56-oz loaves.

The need for bread prices to rise in Northern Ireland, as a necessary measure to safeguard bread supplies in the Province, was announced in a joint statement on 13 August 1975 by Stanley Orme, Minister of State for Northern Ireland, and Robert Maclennan, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection.

Maximum prices in the Bread Prices Order 1975 already allow for price increases in Northern Ireland of ½p on 14-oz and 1p on 28-oz standard bread loaves and of ½p on non-standard 8-oz to 10-oz loaves from 15 September after the necessary pre-notification of the Price Commission.

* The Bread Prices (Amendment) (No. 3) Order 1975 – SI 1975/1499, which amends the Bread Prices Order 1975.

Office of Fair Trading
Follow the instructions.
Mistakes can be expensive.
Office of Fair Trading
Doorstep salesmen come in many disguises.
Be on your guard!

New posters issued yesterday by the Office of Fair Trading. The posters, in colour and in two sizes, are being supplied to trading standards officers for issue to outlets such as consumer advisory bureaux, local government offices, and libraries. The OFT states that while doorstep selling can bring advantages to consumers, particularly those who are housebound, householders are constantly faced with the likelihood of high-pressure salesmanship on the doorstep.

New members of the Domestic Coal Consumers' Council

Eight new members have been appointed to the Domestic Coal Consumers' Council by Shirley Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection.

The members appointed are: Mrs. M. A. Bell, Mr. A. Bennett, Mr. J. H. Browne, Mr. C. R. Cresswell, Mr. G. E. Everitt, Mrs. J. Merry, Mr. C. E. Needham, and Mrs. D. Saunderson.

The Council members who are unpaid volunteers, were appointed after consultation with numerous organisations under the provisions of the Coal Industry Nationalisation Act 1946.

Department of Energy to review Electricity Supply Acts

The Electricity Supply Acts 1882-1936 and the supply provisions of later Acts are being reviewed by the Department of Energy and other interested Government departments.

An official committee is looking at the provisions governing the supply of electricity in England and Wales which are contained in several Acts dating back to the last century. The committee's terms of reference are to examine these provisions with a view to making recommendations for their replacement by a modern code of electricity supply reflecting the needs of the electricity boards, consumers and the general public today.

The electricity supply industry and the electricity consultative councils have been asked for their views. Any other interested bodies or individuals who wish to submit comments should send them to: Electricity Division (Branch 4), Department of Energy, Thames House South, Millbank, London SW1.

Present legislation governing the supply of electricity is contained in: The Electric Lighting Act 1882; Electric Lighting Act 1888; Electric Lighting (Clauses) Act 1899; Electric Lighting Act 1909; Electricity (Supply) Act 1919; Electricity (Supply) Act 1922; Electricity (Supply) Act 1926; Electricity Supply (Meters) Act 1936; Electricity Act 1947; Public Utilities Street Works Act 1950; Electricity (Supply) Meter Act 1952, and The Electricity Act 1957.

The electricity supply industry in Scotland is the responsibility of the Secretary of State for Scotland and the review, therefore, relates only to supply provisions affecting the industry in England and Wales.

Administrative guidance on Electrical Equipment (Safety) Regulations 1975

A non-statutory guide to the Electrical Equipment (Safety) Regulations 1975 was published on 18 September by the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection.

This first edition lists mainly British Standards. The list will be extended from time to time to include standards regarded as acceptable by the Government for the purposes of the Regulations. Also listed, for the information of enforcement authorities and other interested bodies, are the approval or certification bodies notified to the EEC Commission by Member States, and the testing bodies authorised for the purpose of the Regulations.

Copies of the 'Administrative guidance on the Electrical Equipment (Safety) Regulations 1975' (ISBN 0 11 511650 8) may be obtained from any branch of HM Stationery Office (price £1.15), or by post from HMSO, PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH (£1.30).

The Administrative Guidance is issued following publication of the Electrical Equipment (Safety) Regulations 1975 (SI 1975 No. 1366), which were made on 12 August 1975 under the Consumer Protection Act 1961.

'The culmination of a remarkable and uniquely successful phase of offshore exploration'

The Government 'take' of 70 per cent of the profits to be realised by offshore producers provides a firm protection of the national interest but is fair in its recognition of the industries' essential requirements, stated John Smith, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Energy, in Aberdeen on 19 September.

Mr. Smith, who was addressing delegates to the 'Offshore Europe '75' Conference, described the progress that is being made in the development of UK offshore resources and spoke of some likely developments.

On the Government's proposals for Petroleum Revenue Tax (PRT), he said: 'The tax was the subject of lengthy negotiations with the industry last year and it embodies a number of features to take account of the special provision made for marginal fields. The Government's average "take" over the next 10 years from the 13 commercial fields so far discovered is expected to be some 70 per cent of the profits, being made up of royalty, the new Petroleum Revenue Tax and the standard Corporation Tax. In addition, discretionary power is being taken in the Petroleum and Submarine Pipelines Bill to refund royalty, where this proves necessary, in order to facilitate or maintain development.

'I cannot believe that there are many who would dispute that the Government is right to make special taxation provisions. The steep increases in the world price of oil would have conferred upon producers the benefit of an unearned economic rent which we believe ought to return to the nation. In setting the rate and shape of the tax, the Government strove to balance the right of the nation to share in the benefits in the oil production with the realistic needs of the industry. As it now stands, I believe it provides firm protection of the national interest but is fair in its recognition of the industry's essential requirements.'

Describing the current activity in the North Sea, Mr. Smith said: 'The picture there is of a very healthy and vigorous level of activity in all stages of the process of exploration for, and development, of our offshore petroleum resources. Taking the first eight months of this year, an average of nearly 28 exploration and appraisal rigs have been operating in UK waters – close to the forecast of 30 contained in this year's Brown Book, and a higher level than ever before by a clear margin. This has led to a remarkable number of new discoveries.

'Since the beginning of the year, 22 oil discoveries have been made bringing the total number since exploration started to 47. Development of 13 of these 47 is already under way and although perhaps not every discovery is likely to prove commercially exploitable, a substantial number of them are promising. Further appraisal drilling, now going ahead, will be needed before the companies can take firm decisions.'

Mr. Smith continued: 'The real importance of 1975 lies in the tremendous build-up of development activity which we have witnessed, including the landing of the first oil from UK oil fields. Important as exploration is, it is the development phase which brings by far the greatest number of orders and jobs to industry, and which will determine the all-important lead-time between discovery and the realisation of the full benefits of indigenous oil.'

Later, Mr. Smith said: 'I do not want, however, to give the impression that the Government takes a complacent view of North Sea activity or that it is only concerned with the present and the past and is taking no thought for the future. Forecasting in a high technology industry is notoriously difficult and the North Sea certainly is not an exception. Let me nonetheless do some speculating. It seems likely that 1975 will be the year in which exploration activity in the North Sea reaches a peak. If we look at the timing of successive licensing rounds, this is not surprising since companies tend to peak their drilling activity in the middle of the six years' licence period. The last and biggest round was announced over three years ago.

'As I have said, recent drilling in particular has produced a high number of discoveries. A substantial programme of appraisal drilling – which lies outside the obligations under licence terms – now lies ahead of the companies. The reserves already discovered could produce high levels of production until well into the 1980s. Nonetheless, the Government recognises that it will be necessary to maintain exploration effort if our resources are to be exploited to their full extent. That is why we are currently thinking hard about the timing of a new licensing round.'

The Minister went on to say: 'I recognise that it is some months since a major new development decision was taken. It is important to put this into perspective. We have seen this year the culmination of a remarkable and uniquely successful phase of offshore exploration. Let me illustrate that by saying that since exploration started in the UK sector of the North Sea, the success rate in exploration drilling has been 1 in 4. In the highly prolific East Shetlands Basin, the rate has been 1 in 2 overall and even better than that since the beginning of 1975.

'At the same time we are seeing the first fruits of the major development effort to which I referred earlier. The companies have responded, in my view, with great skill and speed to the opportunities presented. Given the continuing uncertainties of deep water exploration, it is, however, too much to expect that the level of development commitment will always maintain a constant pace. We are now in a period of consolidation. We should bear in mind that at least two years are normally necessary for technical and economic appraisal between the moment of discovery and the point of commitment to full development.'

Talking of the continued attraction of the North Sea against the background of recent developments, Mr. Smith said: 'Of course, it is taking companies and their bankers, and indeed all of us, time to adjust to all these developments. But I think I can say that we have evolved a fair new tax structure and have worked out our ideas on participation to the extent of talking seriously with a wide range of companies, some substantial.

'We are confident that the North Sea remains attractive to the oil industry and that as appraisal continues, the companies will move once again into new development commitments. The Secretary of State has recently set in hand an examination with the companies of ways of evening out those development commitments over time so that the load on the offshore industry can be maintained and peaks and troughs eliminated so far as it is possible.

'I repeat, however, that we have no reason to believe that development decisions are being deferred for any reason other than the need to complete economic and technical appraisal of discoveries.'

Referring to Britain's share of the UK offshore supplies market, Mr. Smith said: 'There has been criticism in some quarters that British industry has not fared particularly well so far in providing goods and services to our offshore market. It is true that in overall terms the UK share of the orders placed by operators of oil and gas fields in the UK sector during 1974 was only around 40 per cent but it is sometimes overlooked that this represents over £500 million worth of business.

'Some upturn is indicated by a preliminary analysis of the orders placed in the first half of this year when the provisional assessment is that UK industry captured around 45 per cent of the total value of these orders.'

Mr. Smith announced at the conference that it had been agreed in principle that his Department's Offshore Supplies Office would be represented in Aberdeen on a permanent basis.

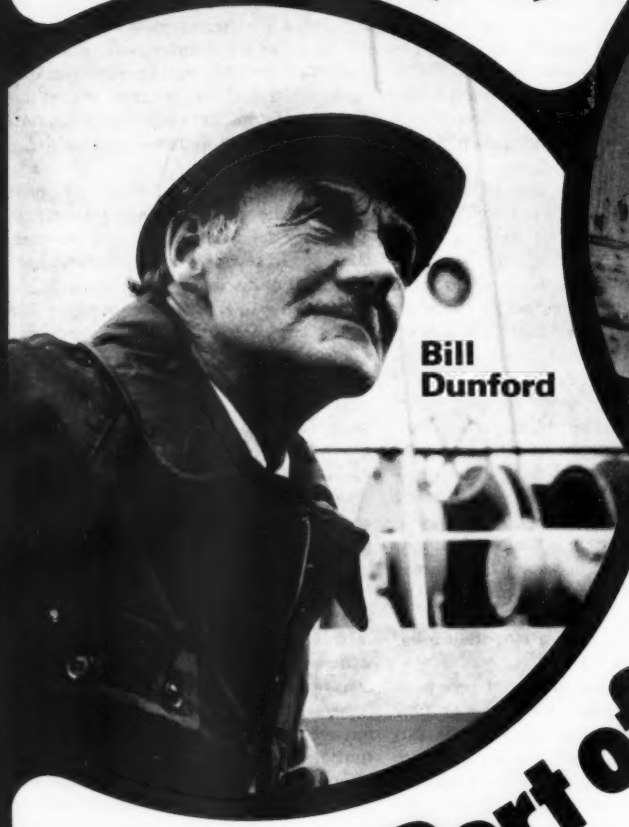
A standard for basic diving training

As part of its programme to improve training in underwater working, the Training Services Agency is publishing shortly a training standard for basic air diving and underwater working, ie diving down to about 50m. This follows extensive consultation with the industry and other diving interests.

The aim of the national standard is to improve the quality of work of new entrants to commercial diving and to reduce the risk of diving accidents attributable to inadequate training. The standard will be reviewed from time to time in the light of changes in technology and techniques and other developments which are likely to occur at a rapid pace in this field.

Steps are being taken by the TSA to draw up standards for mixed gas diving training.

Take a new look...



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Publications

Uniform Customs and Practice for Documentary Credits. 1974 revision in force as from 1 October 1975. International Chamber of Commerce Publication No. 290. (31 pages. 1975. Available from the British National Committee of the International Chamber of Commerce, High Holborn House, 52/54 High Holborn, London WC1V 6SW.) The International Chamber of Commerce Banking Commission has contributed to the rationalisation of international trade through the formation of sets of rules governing documentary credits. Documentary credits are a secure and extensively used means of payment in international trade and although simple in principle, in practice difficulties frequently arise. Different types of credit exist and banks naturally examine documents with extreme care as they discharge their responsibility in committing their clients funds. Disagreements between banks, suppliers and clients may occur over interpretation of credit terms. The *ICC Uniform Customs and Practice for Documentary Credits* give precise details of types of credit and documents used, responsibilities of the parties and all other necessary information. The 1962 issue of this publication has been amended in this 1974 revision in the light of the considerable changes that have taken place in international trading and transport techniques. The changes made particularly concern the documentary aspects of multimodal transport and unitised cargoes, the easier production and processing of documents in 'short form' and the problem of 'stale' documents.

ECE: A Key to Economic Co-operation. United Nations Economic Commission for Europe. (47 pages. Available from HMSO. 1975. £0.88. ISBN 0 11 903846 3.) The Economic Commission for Europe was created in 1947 by the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations to 'generate and improve economic co-operation' and 'strengthen economic relations among its members and between them and other countries'. This illustrated pamphlet is divided into 14 sections and its purpose is to elaborate on the four main objectives of the ECE as set out in the introductory section. These are: the promotion of international trade, scientific and technological co-operation, the improvement of the environment, and long-term planning or programming and projections as a basis for economic policy-making. The sections describe the ECE's work in the planning of economic growth, the widening of trade opportunities, the exchanging of scientific and technological information, and the promotion of co-operation among governments in studying and estimating future needs in such areas as energy, transport and the environment. The pamphlet also describes the ECE's attempts to solve problems relating to housing, industrial development, agriculture, forestry and also touches on some of the disparities in development between European countries. There is also a section showing how the ECE collects its statistical information. The final part explains the ECE's role in disseminating information through studies and reports. The methods whereby it encourages co-operation between governments are examined and the resulting joint activities with other United Nation's commissions are shown to be conducive to inter-governmental co-operation on a wide variety of topics.

Community law: extract from the Eighth General Report on the Activities of the European Communities in 1974, by the European Communities Commission. (38 pages. Available from HMSO. 1974. £1.10. ISBN 0 11 934846 2.) As the introduction to this booklet points out, the Court of Justice of the European Communities has again been very active in its efforts to enforce Community law as an instrument of integration and to give full effect to the basic treaties of the Communities. This short review of legal developments in the Communities during 1974 contains summaries of developments in the Community legal order as a whole, and judgements of the Court of Justice in particular areas of law. The general topics mentioned include: institutional developments (notably the powers of the Parliament); the publication and presentation of Community law; the relationship between Community law and national law; the uniform application of Community law by Member States; and the disregarding of their obligations by Member States. Court decisions on substantive rules cover customs questions; competition rules; transport policy; freedom of movement; social affairs; and the common agricultural policy. Four tables conclude the pamphlet: cases analysed by subject matter; cases analysed by type (EEC Treaty); cases analysed by type (ECSC and Euratom Treaties); and a final table presenting a tabulation of decisions reached by national courts concerning Community law. The data in these tables reflects the situation as at the end of 1974.

Nuclear Safety and the Environment: evidence by the Department of Energy to the Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution in connection with its study of radiological safety. (38 pages. Available from the Library, Department of Energy, Thames House South, Millbank, London SW1P 4QJ. 1975. Free.) This pamphlet is not, as the introduction points out, a memorandum stating the total Government viewpoint, but an examination of certain specific issues in response to a request from the Royal Commission. The memorandum is concerned with informing the Commission on the subject of energy demand and economic growth, particularly within the United Kingdom, where the prospects of meeting demand with fossil and nuclear fuels are estimated. The discussion centres on the need to bridge the gap between fossil fuel supply and nuclear power and emphasises the necessity of taking into account the safety and environmental problems which will arise. In the annexes an assessment is made of other alternatives to fossil fuels which might be developed to bridge the energy gap – nuclear fusion, wave power, tidal power, hydroelectricity, wind power, solar and geothermal energy. The final annexes delineate the role of the Department of Energy, the Health and Safety Executive, and the Health and Safety Commission in nuclear safety; the operation of R and D policy and budgeting as a controlled programme of investigation into energy options; energy accounting in its widest sense; and the need for public debate so that balanced decisions on the development of power resources can be taken.

The Conduct of Meetings, by T. P. E. Curry, J. Richard Sykes and Philip L. Heslop. (197 pages. Jordan and Sons Ltd. 21st edition 1975. £4.50. ISBN 0 85308 083 0.) Meetings can be categorised into two main types: public meetings, that is those convened by individuals or organisations to which there is an open invitation extended to any member of the public, and, secondly, private meetings, usually of a particular group or party, at which the attendance of members is both limited and known. Although the functioning of both types are, to some extent, governed by the same general law, the second type of meeting is more circumscribed by particular rules, regulations and specific legislation. This book is concerned principally with meetings in the more restricted class, such as those governed by the Companies Acts, trade union rule books and so on. However, this guide begins with the general principles of all meetings including, agendas; elements of chairmanship; conduct of sessions; motions and many other pervasive topics. Part two examines the legal aspects of public meetings and provides an up to date guide to police powers, defamation and disorder and its liabilities and consequences. Part three is an extensive coverage of meetings of companies incorporated under the Companies Acts. Local authority meetings are dealt with in part four. An appendix reproduces the forms of notices of meetings of companies, agenda papers and minutes. A table of relevant cases is given at the beginning of the work. It should be emphasised that the real utility of this work will only emerge if the various parts are read in the light of, and subject to, the general principles of part one.

Britain

Rapid progress on rapid transit

Alan Williams looks at Newcastle's Metro – an entirely new transport concept using 'Supertrams'

As the north-east of England celebrates the 150th anniversary of the introduction of railways, nearby Tyneside is quietly pushing ahead with its Metro, a rail transport concept entirely new in Britain. Basically, Metro is a lightweight rapid transit system which combines the speed, cleanliness and reliability of a suburban electric railway with the frequent stops and simplicity of operation of the modern bus or tram. Using new in-town underground or reserved track sections coupled with converted railway lines in suburban areas, Metro would seem to have wide application in the many middle-range cities which are large enough to have transport problems, but of insufficient proportions to warrant the traditional 'heavy' underground rapid transit railway.

First mooted four years ago in the Tyne Wear Plan, the rapid transit system has, despite its novelty, enjoyed rapid progress so far; aided by a recommendation that the system should be completed as soon as possible so as to stem the drift away from public transport towards the private car before it became irreversible, the Passenger Transport Executive pressed ahead with an in-depth study of the busiest part of the system in 1972. The results confirmed that the rapid transit proposals would give the best return (and interestingly, that as a second best, buses running on conventional roads would be better than buses running on 'busways' built over redundant railway lines). The 55km (34-mile) system therefore got the go-ahead. A 75 per cent grant – so as to put it on the same footing as a major road scheme – was awarded by the Department of the Environment late in 1972 and the Tyneside Metropolitan Railway Bill authorising the works became an Act of Parliament in July 1973. Now, the first tunnel sections are well advanced and two prototype 'supertrams' are undergoing evaluation on the 2.5km test track in North Tyneside.

The first sections, from Haymarket to Benton and the reopened line to Kenton Bank Foot, are scheduled to open in 1978 and it is hoped to have the entire system in operation by the early 1980s – ten years from inception to completion is Director of Planning David Howard's aim. So certain are Tyne and Wear County Council of the Metro's success that, unique in Britain, investment in new roads in the county has virtually ceased, and all funds are being directed towards a rapid development of the integrated urban public transport system of which rapid transit is the core.

Why rapid transit? Tyne Wear Plan's aim was to overcome congestion and communication problems in an area of social, housing and industrial change, and to fulfil a need to improve communications within the conurbation and, in particular, to the very heart of its central area. Reserved track public transport seemed to provide the reliable, fast and frequent public transport service necessary to provide an attractive alternative to the private car.

Metro has been designed around established transport technology; all the main operational and engineering principles have been well-tried in public transport systems on the Continent, and this has been coupled with experience gained by London Transport. Metro's task will be to cope with the heaviest flows in a way which can allow bus services to be reorientated into 'feeder' services. The crux of Metro's success will lie in the high cost central portions providing penetration under the heart of the conurbation and the measure of integration which can be achieved with the rest of the transport system.

Easily adapted

Around Newcastle, as in other conurbations, much of the local rail system is capable of conversion to Metro operation at a relatively low cost, thus allowing the initial system based on the very important central underground sections to be much more extensive than funds would otherwise allow. Metro has been deliberately designed to be extended to other parts of the conurbation where no right of way presently exists; already, the possibility of extensions westward from the new St. James' station to Denton Burn, Sunderland via Washington New Town and through the Team Valley industrial estate to Kibblesworth is being considered, as

well as an extension from Kenton Bank Foot to the airport. The system adopted therefore has to be capable of operating over difficult and very differing terrain, and to integrate with existing housing, industrial and road developments. This calls for vehicles which are relatively small compared with main line railway standards and capable of operating competitively over steep gradients and round sharp curves. Silent running would also be important and it was clearly essential that if the system was to provide a frequent and attractive service within acceptable costs – which have to be borne locally – one-man operation with 'open' bus stop-like stations would have to be adopted.

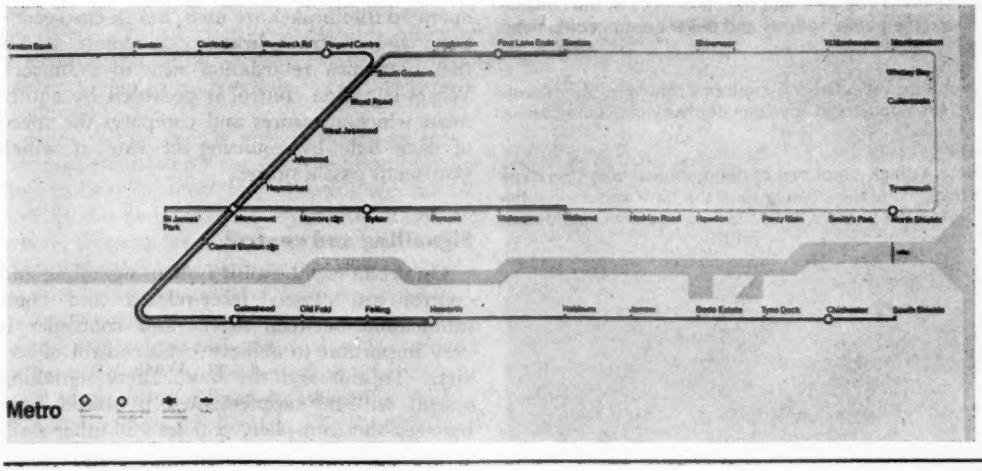
The Metro route will consist initially of eight miles of new construction forming the heart of the new system, and 26 route miles of converted existing railway. New construction, swallowing most of the investment, includes twin north-south tunnels under Newcastle and Gateshead starting immediately north of the existing Jesmond Station and running southwards under Central Station, emerging to cross the Tyne on a steel bridge before diving underground again beneath Gateshead and finally surfacing at Old Fold on the existing railway between Gateshead and Pelaw. There will be new underground stations at Jesmond, Haymarket, Monument and Central Station on the north bank of the Tyne and at Gateshead on the south side. Monument Station will be an interchange for a new east/west line with twin tunnels starting from a new underground station at Manors and running west through Monument to a new station at St. James's. Eastwards from Manors, the new line will pass under the British Rail East Coast Main Line and then swing round through the centre of Byker on a new viaduct before entering a short cut-and-cover section to join the existing line west of Walkergate station. On the south side of the Tyne the line from Jesmond, after emerging from the tunnels at Old Fold, will follow the existing British Rail tracks as far as Tyne Dock station and then swing on to a new alignment through Chichester to the existing South Shields Station. The Executive and British Rail are agreed that as far as possible the Metro and the main line railway shall operate as separate systems to achieve the maximum efficiency in their respective spheres of operation. Bus/Metro interchanges are to be provided at Regent Centre, Four Lane Ends and North Shields in the north, and at Heworth and Gateshead on the south bank. At all but the last, both 'park and ride' (passenger parks at interchange) and 'kiss and ride' (passenger driven to or from interchange) traffic will be encouraged and provided for.

Above:

Two of these prototype 'Supertrams' have been built by Metro Cammell in Birmingham for test and evaluation on the Tyne and Wear Metro 2.5km test track in North Tyneside.

Below:

Schematic map of the Newcastle Metro now under construction, showing the pattern of the four services which will cover the system, each with its own distinctive colour. Westward extensions from St. James's Park and Kenton Bank are already being considered.



Because the Metro concept is based on full integration with the local public transport system, Metro must be as simple as possible to use, and competitive in terms of local resources. Fare collection will be fully integrated on both bus and Metro, requiring pre-booking together with the use of automatic vending machines for ticket sales at stations.

The design of stations is aimed at achieving a common theme throughout the whole system, although the extent of stations will vary from major underground and interchange stations, to minor surface stations which have the character of a bus stop. Stations will be 'open' and many unstaffed, but the modern ticketing systems will be backed by travelling teams of inspectors, who, it is hoped, will have the power to impose on-the-spot fines for fare-dodgers, as well as closed circuit television and public address from central control to assist in passenger surveillance and handling.

Supertrams

Perhaps the great innovation on the system, however, are the new 'supertrams'. Preliminary specifications were drawn up by the Executive in 1971 and discussed with manufacturers at home and overseas. Eventually the contract for two prototype articulated cars was placed with Metropolitan Cammell in Birmingham. Central Government provided special grant towards the development and proving of these 'Supertrams' as part of a more general assistance programme of research and development in urban rail transportation and its export potential.

The Tyneside Metro car is specifically designed to cater for relatively short, high density passenger movement and these characteristics dictate its design. Basically, it is an articulated vehicle, the two sections of which are carried on three trucks, the outer two being motored. The bodies are of lightweight integral construction, with welded steel frames and aluminium panelling. The outer ends are of a pleasing design, being formed in grp around robust collision pillars. There is air suspension, rubber resilient wheels and rheostatic, air and electro-magnetic track brakes. There are seats for 84 passengers although well over 200 people can be carried under crush load conditions. Guards and luggage compartments are not provided as the vehicles are designed to be one-man operated, but clear areas at the door bays and over the articulation will adequately accommodate prams, push-chairs and luggage. Four pairs of sliding plug-type doors are provided on each side of each car. Push buttons enable passengers to open doors as required from inside or outside the car; closure of the doors and release of the circuits for passenger operation is under the control of the driver. Each articulated car can operate as a single unit or in multiple, but platform length at the underground stations will limit the maximum length to three cars. All cars are double ended – they can be driven from a driving position at either end.

Emphasis has been placed on a high level of acceleration and braking (approximately 1.2m/sec^2) coupled with a maximum speed of 80kph (50 mph) which is the attainable top speed between the majority of stations at the spacing envisaged. Transmission and other noises have been reduced to a minimum and, as far as possible, proven mechanical and electrical components have been used as reliability is regarded as very important. During normal service braking, only the regenerative and air-operated disc brakes are used, but in emergency the magnetic track brakes can almost double the maximum retardation rate to 2.3m/sec^2. Wheel slip/slide control is provided by equipment which measures and compares the speed of each axle by counting the rate at which gear-teeth pass a probe.

Signalling and control

On urban rapid transit systems signalling and control are closely inter-related and communication between driver and controller is very important to achieve close control of services. To this end the basic safety signalling system will be supplemented by radio links between the controller, vehicles and other staff,

Above:

Driver at the controls of a Metro 'Supertram', showing the simple master controller – the further forward you push it, the faster you go – and the clean lines of the console and the public address and driver control equipment.

Above right:

The airy interior of one of the prototype articulated 'Supertrams', showing the two-a-side, bus-type seating, 'plug' type doors and spacious doorway circulation areas.

Right:

A prototype 'Supertram' runs into a mock-up of one of the proposed 'bus stop' type stations on the Metro test track. Note the clean lines of the front end and, at the trackside, the tv surveillance camera and driver's monitor.

extensive public address systems and closed-circuit television.

The automatic two-aspect signalling system is based on conventional underground railway practice; it will allow for a two minute headway through the central sections, with longer signal sections outside the central area where frequencies will be less; as in normal practice, automatic train stops will be provided at all signals in the tunnel sections. There are several level crossings on the system, all at stations, and the prototype of a simplified form of ungated crossing, controlled by track circuits and with interlinked road and rail signals is being evaluated on the test track. The automatic centre couplers also carry the traction, braking and door control circuits, as well as the main reservoir pipe of the air brake. The electrical equipment for the two prototype cars has supplied mainly by GEC Traction Ltd.

It is intended that drivers will select and set up their own route as they progress through the system, this being achieved by inductive devices mounted on the cars and receivers mounted on the track. The route setting equipment will control the operation of the platform destination indicators in the tunnel sections. The Metro signalling system will be integrated with conventional railway signalling, where there are interfaces with British Rail or where goods lines have to cross the Metro for siding access.

The signalling and operational control centre for Metro will be sited at Gosforth near the car maintenance depot, and will have direct links to bus control and the emergency services. The prototype cars, like underground trains, have end doors to allow evacuation in tunnels in an emergency, but consideration is being given to the provision of continuous walkways at platform height in all the tunnels, as in the Channel Tunnel proposal, to allow quicker egress in emergency and to facilitate maintenance.

Electrification

The 1,500 volt d.c. overhead electrification system was chosen for Metro against a background of existing experience both at home and on the Continent. The Railway Inspectorate has indicated that it will now only permit further third rail electrification if it forms an extension to an existing system, so some form of overhead electrification had to be adopted (although this would in any event have been essential on any extensions involving street running).

High voltage a.c. is now virtually an international standard for the electrification of main line railway systems but low voltage d.c. is equally standard on urban underground systems where, because of high frequencies and close station spacing, it is more appropriate. Without it, each vehicle would have to be equipped with its own transformer and rectifier unit which would add weight and cost to what is intended to be a lightweight, high performance car, as well as imposing design difficulties in having to find the room for them in a situation where space is already at a premium. Also, clearances under bridges and in particular through tunnels are less for 1,500 volt d.c. than for high voltage a.c.

In common with British Rail, the Executive has retained British Insulated Callender Construction to assist in the design of its overhead equipment, which is in part derived from main line practice. Several types of 'simplified' British Rail catenary are being evaluated on the test track.

Good progress and much interest

David Howard is rightly well-pleased with progress so far; the prototype cars, although still quite new, have proved very reliable during the first few months of tests, and exhibit impressive acceleration, even when starting up gradients as steep as 1 in 25. Already, the test track and full-size underground station mock-up have been inspected by admiring transport officials from both home and overseas, and it seems that for the next few years at least Tyne and Wear is going to put Britain firmly in the van of urban passenger transport development.

Britain

Datapost – a 'personalised' delivery service for packages

A package collected by postal services in London at 2 p.m. can be safely delivered to its American addressee in, say, Stamford, Connecticut, by 9 a.m. local time the following day without making use of any but known routes. And this can be achieved not only on one occasion but regularly – daily, if needed. The package would cross the Atlantic to New York by a regular evening flight from London's Heathrow Airport and be delivered to its destination by the Express Mail Service of the US Post Office.

This is just an example of the 'personalised' delivery that can be provided to businesses by the Post Office's Datapost. With Datapost, at every stage of a long and complicated journey someone checks the package to make sure it reaches its destination on time.

Users of this Post Office service include banks, insurance companies, multiple stores, breweries, shipping lines, building societies and local government. Datapost provides the businessman with a service which contracts to deliver packages where he wants them, when he wants them. This need may not necessarily be daily, weekly or even monthly, but until this summer it had to be on a regular basis, even if only for a few times a year. This regularity helped the Post Office make the detailed handling arrangements.

On 4 August, however, the Post Office extended its international Datapost service by making it available 'On Demand' for the first time. This latest facility will be available at four London and 26 provincial centres. There will be a two-way flow of traffic between these centres and towns and cities throughout the United States, Brazil, the Netherlands and Hong Kong.

Customers, who will pay £10 a year plus a charge for each consignment, will be able to use the new service as frequently as they wish.

The 26 provincial centres involved are: Aberdeen, Belfast, Birmingham, Bradford, Bristol, Cardiff, Derby, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Great Yarmouth, Leeds, Leicester, Liverpool, Manchester, Middlesbrough, Newcastle upon Tyne, Newport (Gwent), Norwich, Nottingham, Peterborough, Reading, Sheffield, Southampton, Swansea, Wakefield.

Five years ago, when Datapost started, one natural candidate was computer data, which had to be distributed both fast and regularly. Since there is little point in having a computer obtain results within minutes, unless those who act on them are informed just as swiftly, Datapost offered a collection and delivery service overnight.

But these days not only computer data must be moved fast. Anything that travels by first-class post can also travel by Datapost. That includes butter or model aeroplanes, books or blood plasma, laboratory slides or chemical samples, screws or machine parts. There is no weight limit to the consignment to be sent, but large consignments should be split into easily-handled packages of no more than about 12kg.

Delivery overnight can be provided not only within the UK but also between London and New York, Paris, Brussels and Amsterdam. Packages travelling to other regions of those

Television sets sent by the Datapost service being delivered by a postman to the postroom of a company in Kingston upon Thames, Surrey.

This picture gives an indication of the wide range of materials handled by the Datapost services. Legal documents, payroll data, blood specimens, laboratory slides, chemical and industrial samples are just some of the items for which the service is especially suitable.

countries generally take up to 24 hours, while a 48-hour service operates to Tokyo, Osaka and Hong Kong.

To date, Datapost covers the USA, Hong Kong and Brazil, and major cities in France, Belgium and Holland, as well as the whole of the UK. The Post Office expects other countries to be added to that list, but it will not enter a reciprocal agreement with a particular country unless a satisfactory return service can be provided. America, Brazil, Hong Kong, Japan and the Netherlands all have their own versions of the British Post Office's system, offering a two-day service.

Fast and reliable, all packages in the Datapost service travel over known routes designed for speedy transit, using vans, trains and couriers as well as aircraft. This service scores because whenever a package leaves one place, there is always someone at the next relay point waiting for it. 'In fact', says Datapost's Manager, Roy Squires, 'at every point there is a postman who knows there's a Datapost bag expected on his route that night.'

One of Datapost's heaviest users is the ship-owning and managing firm of John Swire and Sons Ltd. Although its headquarters is in the City of London, the firm's activities are centred on Hong Kong, where its interests include Hong Kong United Dockyards and Cathay Pacific Airways. Other enterprises include insurance, property, bottling, sugar packing, paints, travel and agency work. With all that activity, it is not surprising that Swire's daily Datapost, all of it documentation, can sometimes weigh up to 5 lb. Tony de Meric, the company's London office manager, says that after almost two years' use of the service Swire's has become very dependent on Datapost. 'We use it four days a week and it has built up a reputation for speed and reliability', he explained. A package collected at the company's Cannon Street offices at 5 p.m. can be delivered in Hong Kong about two days later.

Dataposting westwards to America is British Steel. Four days a week shipping documents are moved from 17 points around Britain via London to Houston, Texas, where British Steel Corporation Inc. is sited. The whole operation takes just 36 hours. This turn of speed has proved a boon for the company's exports according to management services principal John Warburton. 'Before we had Datapost we ran the risk of a ship arriving at an American east coast port with its cargo of steel before the paperwork needed by Customs. When that happens you usually end up with disgruntled customers and considerable extra expense.'

The speed of Datapost enables the American end of BSC's operation to arrange early distribution from the docks, expedites invoices to customers and so improves the flow of cash. Before BSC Inc. moved to Houston from New York last year, the arrival of the then newly introduced Datapost service postman was logged for a month. He was always within 15 minutes of 9 a.m. – just like British users' experience.

A more typical use of Datapost is made by the John Lewis Partnership of department stores and supermarkets. With 16 department stores stretching from Edinburgh to Southampton, stock control is an important element of its business, and 14 stores have a Datapost collection and delivery service of computer tapes and printed data six days a week. Similarly its 56 Waitrose supermarkets, mainly in the south of England, have a weekly service.

Personnel details and pay information are also moved via the secure medium of Datapost with its guaranteed overnight delivery within the UK. Datapost provides information quickly and reliably for an enormous range of activities. After the Summerland pleasure centre disaster on the Isle of Man two years ago, Datapost flew life-saving blood from High Wycombe to the island. That may be an extreme example but it illustrates the point that Datapost is a particularly suitable service for urgently required material.

Further information: Datapost Manager, Room 358, Postal Headquarters, St. Martins-le-Grand, London EC1 (tel. 01-432 1919/20).

Britain

ECGD supplier credit facilities – the extended terms guarantee and specific policy

The great majority of exports covered by the Export Credits Guarantee Department are sold on terms of payment of less than 180 days credit and therefore are insured under the Comprehensive Short Term Guarantee. Those that are not suitable for this form of cover range in scale from machine tools and other engineering goods right up to enormously complex process plant projects negotiated by overseas governments or their agents with perhaps a number of large companies involved and with a consortium of banks working together to provide the necessary finance.

Business of a repetitive type involving such equipment as machine tools, commercial vehicles, contractors' plant and a whole range of engineering goods frequently necessitates granting credit to the buyer on terms of longer than six months and up to five years. The credit may be granted by the supplier or through a UK merchant or a UK confirming or financing house. The ECGD Supplemental (Extended Terms) Guarantee is designed to provide cover for this sort of business. It is also the normal form of cover given to continuous business where pre-credit risk (cover from date of contract) is given and the delivery period is longer than 12 and up to 24 months or so.

Although the extended terms guarantee is a separate policy, it is available only to holders of the Comprehensive Short Term Policy. As with the short term guarantee, the extended terms policy is on a whole turnover basis, the exporter offering all of his business on two- to five-year terms for ECGD cover. The risks covered and the form which the insurance takes are similar to what is provided for business on terms of 180 days, but ECGD approval of contracts and payment of premium follow rather different procedures.

ECGD must be satisfied that the extended terms are both necessary and generally recognised as appropriate to the particular type of goods. Regard is paid to evidence of foreign competition, about official support for which ECGD is always ready to make inquiries of overseas insurers. In giving cover ECGD requires the pattern of terms of payment to be what is normally accepted as being appropriate to the sort of contract in question. ECGD will also expect to see appropriate downpayments before shipment and credit being spread over the period with regular and equal amounts at three or six months' intervals.

Applications for cover are made for each individual contract. It is important that exporters send in their applications at an early stage in the negotiations and that they do not commit themselves to any contractual obligations without first obtaining advice on the terms and conditions of cover that ECGD are prepared to give. ECGD determines the premium for each item of business according to the period for which ECGD is at risk and the grading given to the buyer's country. There is no annual premium for extended terms guarantees and no separate pre-credit risk premium.

To enable exporters to estimate the rate of premium, the method of calculation is explained in an appendix to the guarantee. The rate payable is notified by ECGD on approval. Procedures for dealing with overdues, probable losses, claims and recoveries are similar to those for the exporter's short term business. ECGD's written approval must be obtained for any extension of due date of payment. Contracts become overdue if payment is not received one month after the approved extended due date.

Some capital goods contracts, particularly those of a 'one-off' nature need rather different credit insurance procedures. Each contract is therefore the subject of an individually written guarantee. Because of the long manufacturing periods necessary with specialised capital exports, cover under a specific guarantee is normally provided from date of contract (although it can be from date of shipment). With a specific policy, the exporter is covered for 90 per cent of loss for all causes suffered. Where loss occurs before dispatch of the goods, ECGD covers 90 per cent of the cost incurred by the exporter.

The risks covered include insolvency of the buyer and the buyer's refusal to pay within six months of due date for goods that have been accepted. When the overseas buyer is a Government or other 'public buyer', such as certain local government bodies, cover extends to failure or refusal to fulfil any of the terms of the contract. Specific policies, unlike extended terms guarantees, do not cover failure or refusal of the buyer to accept goods which have been dispatched (where the failure or refusal does not arise from a breach contract by the exporter).

The political risks covered include foreign government interference with the contract which prevents or delays payment, cancellation of valid import licences, or war or civil war.

During the manufacturing period (pre-credit risk) the exporter is covered against loss due to buyer insolvency or frustration of the contract where the cause is outside the control of buyer and exporter.

Premium is calculated for each policy according to ECGD's assessment of the risk. As exporters are choosing the contracts for cover and there is no spread of risk, premium rates are somewhat higher than they are for the whole turnover extended terms guarantee. For business on five years' instalment credit, even with a pre-shipment period of up to two years, premium should not exceed about £3.40 per cent in the weakest markets. In a sound market it should be about £1.25 per cent.

For extended terms with credit of more than two years and for specific policies, the exporter may be able to supplement his insurance cover with an ECGD specific guarantee to a financing bank. On the security of this guarantee, the banks provide export finance at favourable rates of interest. The actual rate for each contract is determined by ECGD; minimum rates are 7 per cent for credit of two to five years and 7½ per cent over five years. Under the terms of the guarantee ECGD will pay the banks three months after due date in the event of the buyer's non-payment for any reason and they cover the bank to 100 per cent of the credit allowed to the buyer.

As ECGD is giving an unconditional 100 per cent guarantee to the bank, the exporter signs an agreement giving ECGD a right of recourse for any payments paid by ECGD for amounts in excess of those due to the exporter under his insurance policy. The normal rate of premium paid by exporters for a specific bank guarantee is 25p per £100. In addition, the exporter pays the bank a 1 per cent commitment commission on the principal of the loan and a small negotiation fee.

Extended terms and specific supplier credit policies are only part of the services to exporters of capital and semi-capital goods and projects. Specialised ECGD facilities for the construction industry and the workings of buyer facilities will be described in a future article.

ECGD news

Two loans for USSR

The Export Credits Guarantee Department has guaranteed two loans totalling £3.3 million which Morgan Grenfell and Co. Ltd., in conjunction with Moscow Narodny Bank Ltd., have arranged with Vreshtorgbank, the Bank for Foreign Trade of the USSR.

The first loan of £1.6 million will help finance a contract for an automated conveyor system for use in a tyre factory which is being supplied by Fata Ltd., of Watford, to V/O Techmashimport. Finance for this loan has been made available by Barclays Bank.

The second loan of £1.7 million will help finance a contract for endless belt vertical head buffing machines used in the processing of leather which are being supplied by Turner Machinery Ltd., of Leeds, to V/O Technopromimport. Finance for this loan has been made available by Williams and Glyn's Bank Ltd.

Textile machinery for Iran

The Export Credits Guarantee Department has guaranteed a £6 million loan to help finance a contract for the supply and installation of textile machinery for a complete spinning plant to be erected at Rasht in northern Iran.

Finance for the loan was made available to Iran Poushesh Industries Corporation by Midland Bank Ltd.

Platt Saco Lowell Ltd. of Accrington, Lancashire, will be responsible for supplying the equipment and supervising the erection. Commissioning is scheduled for early 1977.

Time Rates of Wages and Hours of Work

A volume of tables giving particulars of the minimum, or standard, time rates of wages for the more important industries and occupations, and of the normal weekly hours for which these rates are payable. The details given relate to the position as at April 1, 1974, but any later changes known to have come into operation are shown.

£2.40 (*by post* £2.57).

Government publications can be bought from the Government Bookshops in London (post orders to PO Box 569, SE1 9NH). Edinburgh, Cardiff, Belfast, Manchester, Birmingham and Bristol, or through booksellers

HMSO BOOKS

Technology News

Decompression or depression? Deep-sea divers research

Seven days in a room without doors is what many divers have to endure after a deep dive. The 'doorless room' is a decompression chamber.

Now a research team, including a woman psychologist, Dr. Helen Ross, are trying to find out what sort of man can stand up to the mental and physical stresses of working 150m below the sea's surface and being confined in a decompression chamber for days.

A deep-sea diver trainee research project has been commissioned by the Training Services Agency, an executive arm of the Manpower Services Commission.

The two year project, under the direction of Prof. Neville Moray, of Stirling University, Dr. Nic Synodinos and Dr. Helen Ross is being conducted jointly with the Medical Research Council Applied Psychology Unit, Cambridge, directed by Dr. A. D. Baddeley.

'Nobody really knows, completely, at this stage, what makes a good diver,' says Mr. Jim Wiltshire, TSA's Deputy Director of Training. 'He must be physically tough, of course – a special medical sees to that.

'Soon the Underwater Training Centre at Fort William will be training people down to 150m so that they may operate at much greater depths.

'Operating at these depths for quite short periods means that he must spend eight hours, or more, in a decompression chamber. On occasions this decompression period will be more than a week.

'A decompression chamber is like a room without doors to the diver. He cannot get out whether he wants to or not. Usually there's another diver or two being decompressed with him.'

When the divers have finished their underwater work, they are brought to the surface in the diving bell. The bell locks on to a transfer chamber and from there they climb through into the decompression chamber.

This chamber is rather like a ship's boiler, designed to withstand great pressure from inside and out. About 6 ft. 6 in. high and 14-19 ft. long, it generally accommodates four divers.

The divers' days of decompression are spent reading newspapers and books, listening to the radio, lying on their bunks. Their meals are passed to them through a special, double-lock hatch.

'Training divers is an expensive business – and one of the objects of our research is to make sure that the money is being spent on the right people,' says Dr. Helen Ross.

Work in the low level measurements laboratory nuclear physics division at Harwell. Archaeological specimens of bone are being cut up so that the collagen can be extracted. The carbon that this contains will be converted into benzene and its carbon-14 content determined using the very sensitive radiation measuring equipment in the Harwell carbon-14 laboratory. The ratio of carbon-14 to total carbon is closely related to the time that has elapsed since the specimen was living.

Group technology

Engineering companies concerned about rising working capital requirements and liquidity problems should consider the contribution which Group Technology might make to their solution. This is one of the points made in a new booklet* published by the Mechanical Engineering Economic Development Committee.

The EDC also draws attention to the potential benefits in terms of more satisfying work, as well as higher remuneration for those engaged on the shop floor, which group technology can bring. The EDC say that in the past the opportunities for achieving this have often been missed. Most companies have concentrated on the technical production aspects of group technology and have failed to consider how their working systems might be re-designed to increase job satisfaction. The EDC also believes that the introduction of group technology can provide an opportunity to transfer more responsibility to the shop floor.

The booklet sets out the economic case for introducing group technology – reduced delivery times and work in progress, more economical and efficient inspection and materials handling and simplified and more flexible production systems and control. The classification of components involved in introducing group technology also exposes near duplicate parts and facilitates the standardisation of designs.

The working party found that the main costs of introducing group technology were likely to arise in the management time involved and in the reorganisation of facilities rather than in the need to purchase additional machinery. Indeed it was common experience that such costs could be more than covered by reductions in stocks and work in progress. In some situations group technology might be needed to allow the full potential of numerically controlled machine tools and machining centres to be fully realised.

The experience of companies who have already introduced group technology points to the need for particular attention to be paid to changes in the role of supervision. The effects of the transfer of responsibility for progressing and inspection to the group, for example, on the roles of junior supervisory and technical staffs need to be re-assessed.

Thorough training for the employees involved at all levels is essential. Payment systems also need to be re-designed and re-negotiated to take into account changed methods of work and potential increases in productivity.

Supervisors and shop floor operators must be involved in the design of the group and participate fully in the selection of the system finally adopted. Alternative ways in which a group system might be designed and the effects of each of these on employees' job satisfaction need to be fully considered.

* *Why Group Technology?*, available free from Neddy Books, NEDO, Millbank Tower, Millbank, London SW1P 4QX.

Methods of gas detection at SMRE

Atmospheres deficient in oxygen are formed underground by the accumulation of methane or by the reaction of oxygen with the strata; in industry, oxygen-deficient gases are used to flush out fuel tanks before cleaning or repair, to minimise the explosion risk. Such atmospheres present a serious threat to life. Places in which this hazard may arise include mines, tunnels, sewers, underground cable installations, ships' holds, fuel tanks and reactors.

Carbon monoxide detectors can be used for seeking out spontaneous combustion in such places as mines, coal tips and ships' holds; for detecting dangerous levels of carbon monoxide in atmospheres polluted by the internal combustion engine, eg in mines, tunnels, garages, car ferries, and city streets; and for monitoring fumes and flue gases in many industrial systems.

A membrane of polytetrafluorethylene (PTFE) or of silicone rubber is metallised by depositing on one side, first a layer of gold, and then a layer of silver, and is made the cathode of a polarographic electrolytic cell. Oxygen from the atmosphere under test diffuses through the membrane and takes up electrons from the electrode layer which is held at an appropriate potential. This results in an electrical current whose magnitude depends on the oxygen partial pressure in the atmosphere. Metallising the membrane eliminates the thin layer of electrolyte that is present between membrane and metal in other membrane electrodes. Cells based on the metallised membrane electrode are therefore insensitive to shock and to other factors that tend to modify the thickness and character of such a layer.

The metallised membrane electrode has been incorporated into a number of prototype devices at SMRE. Among these is the pocket-size oxygen meter/alarm of which a commercial version is now available. A small bleeper operates promptly when the oxygen partial pressure in the atmosphere falls to a chosen alarm level. This level is set well above danger point, so that even a man's judgement would be unimpaired. The ultra-low power consumption of the device means that it is easily designed to have a life of more than six months between battery changes, and that intrinsic safety in flammable atmospheres presents no problems.

An oxygen recorder, with a remote transducer head, has also been developed for continuous monitoring purposes. Up to now 100m lengths of armoured cable have been used to connect the transducer and the recorder, but lengths of 2km or more should present no difficulty. If necessary, a flashing alarm unit can be connected to the recorder by another length of armoured cable. For use in mines a cell can be powered from the miner's cap-lamp battery, and the cap lamp made to flash in an oxygen-deficient atmosphere. Possible medical applications include the monitoring and control of oxygen tents and incubators. The metallised membrane has also been used for measurements discriminating to one part in 10,000 and as sensitive chromatographic detectors.

Transducers for gases such as nitrogen dioxide, nitric oxide and sulphur dioxide, are being developed for use in small portable instruments.

Inquiries should be sent to the Director of Research and Laboratory Services and Head of Safety in Mines Research Establishment, Red Hill, Sheffield S37HQ. Telephone: Sheffield (0742) 78141.

Measuring up

Calibration will be the subject of a one-day conference and exhibition to be held in the Café Royal, London on Tuesday, 7 October.

Entitled 'Calibration for Effective Quality Control', the conference will be addressed by speakers from the Ministry of Defence, the British Calibration Service and from industry. It will show how one of the commonest causes of disagreement about measurement, and hence about good and bad work, is failure to calibrate; and how calibration, like all improvements, costs money, but can bring about massive savings in man-hours.

The fee for the conference is £34.25 per delegate inclusive of VAT, coffee, lunch, tea and admission to the exhibition of calibration equipment and services. Persons holding a subscription to *Metrology and Inspection* at the time of registering are entitled to attend at a reduced fee of £27 inclusive.

Registration forms and further details can be obtained from the conference secretary, *Metrology and Inspection*, 33-39 Bowling Green Lane, London EC1R 0NE, tel. 01-837 1277, ext. 301.

Harwell and Rolls-Royce extend X-ray contract

The existing agreement between Harwell and Rolls-Royce (1971) Ltd., for the X-radiography of jet engines while running under test-bed conditions has been extended for a further two years. Harwell has been collaborating with Rolls-Royce on radiographic work for all their new advanced jet engines since 1970. The object of this work is to measure the clearances between moving and static turbine parts under a range of running conditions.

Staff from Harwell's Nondestructive Testing Centre travel to Rolls-Royce factories to carry out the radiographic work. They use a 8 MeV electron linear accelerator to provide X-rays of suitably high energy.

The technique is applied, not only to all new designs of Rolls-Royce aero engines both civil and military, but also to industrial and marine versions of the same engines.

The work is important in the development of new engine designs and, when problems are encountered with engines already in service, speeding up the process of diagnosis and modification.

The new Hydrovane 1½ hp rotary vane compressor fits easily into a car boot, complete with its integral motor and tripod stand. The compressor – known as the 6PUM – has the low noise level of 70 dBA at one metre. It does not require a bulky air receiver, a fact which, coupled with the use of a single-phase motor and 'air end' use of a common drive shaft, leads to a compact unit.

Eggs making the grade

A fully automatic egg grader has now been developed which incorporates a thermal printer, making it one of the largest egg counters commercially available.

Sensitive sorting equipment has been teamed with the Thermoprint TP20S, a new printout device developed by Spectronics Ltd. of Poole, Dorset, in conjunction with the National Research Development Corporation.

Finance for technology

The National Research Development Corporation provides financial and other support for technological developments of potential commercial importance. NRDC promotes the adoption by industry of new products and processes invented in government laboratories, universities and elsewhere. NRDC is participating in joint ventures with industry on an increasing scale. By supporting projects NRDC makes it possible for individual firms or groups of companies to undertake and accelerate the development and production of new products and processes of national importance. The corporation welcomes submissions in confidence from firms who have promising new projects to launch in any branch of industry or commerce. The conditions for its considering proposals of this kind are set out in a leaflet which may be obtained on application, either by writing to the National Research Development Corporation, Kingsgate House, 66-74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SL, or by telephoning 01-828 3400.

How ECGD helps companies expand through exporting.

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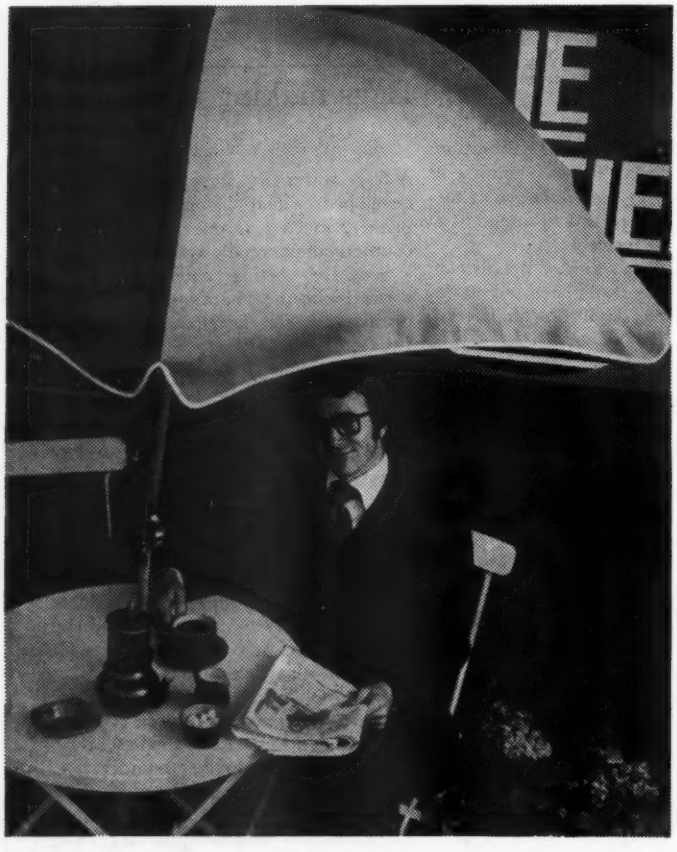

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ACTION NOW: Contact the Information Officer, Export Credits Guarantee Department, quoting reference TIQ at Glasgow, Belfast, Leeds, Manchester, Birmingham, Cambridge, Bristol, London West End, Croydon or Tottenham Regional Offices or Miss Butler, Information Section TIQ. ECGD, Aldermanbury House, Aldermanbury, London EC2P 2EL. (Tel: 01-606 6699 ext 258).

Academic–industrial collaboration in engineering research

A report on academic–industrial collaboration in engineering research has now been published by the Science Research Council*. The report is to the SRC's Engineering Board by a panel chaired by Professor E. J. Richards, until this year Vice-Chancellor of Loughborough University of Technology.

The report refers to the long-term concern that in Britain there seems often to be a breakdown of the innovatory process between research and further exploitation, but concentrates on seeking ways of improving matters within the existing structure rather than proposing a completely new national framework for R and D in engineering. It therefore makes recommendations on how the approach to the support of engineering research might be changed so that the SRC's research investment in academic institutions could be more effectively spent.

Most of the recommendations made stem from the location of three 'gaps' that the panel believes exist in the present method of funding and exploiting academic research in engineering subjects. These are: at the 'predevelopment' stage, where many worthwhile research results are not taken further; at the 'identification' stage, where the report urges a more active approach to identifying research needs and then publicising them; and an 'evaluation gap', into which many of the results of research disappear because there is no general way of disseminating and hence evaluating them.

The report is being published to assess the reactions of the academic and industrial communities to its proposals. Written comments are welcomed by SRC, and it is also planned to hold at least one seminar on the report.

*Academic-Industrial Collaboration in Engineering Research. Copies of this report can be obtained (free of charge) from J .D. Walsh, Science Research Council, State House, High Holborn, London WC1R 4TA.

Drinking water plant for Cyprus

A 70,000 gallons per day, transportable reverse osmosis water treatment plant has been installed at the Alethrico borehole near Larnaca. It will undergo a nine-month test programme, first at Alethrico and subsequently at four other boreholes with different feedwaters, to demonstrate its capability for producing drinking water in useful quantities from lower grade waters, to assess membrane performance and fouling rates with different feedwaters and to obtain further experience of plant operation and reliability.

Reverse osmosis is a direct and simple way of purifying water using semi-permeable membranes. Certain semi-permeable membranes allow pure water to pass through them but do not permit salts in solution to do so. If brackish water, at about 40 atmospheres pressure, is forced against a suitably supported membrane, pure water can be obtained. The process is currently economic only for low salinity, ie brackish, water. Research continues on membranes for prolonged use with sea water.

The Ministry of Overseas Development, the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority and British industry have collaborated with the Water Development Department of the Cyrpus Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources in this programme which results from a report, made in 1972 by the then Water Research Association, on various aspects of Cyprus's water resources and requirements. The original proposal was for a single-module mobile commercial plant but, at the urging of the Cyprus Government, the scope was increased to the present plant in which three different types of membrane with a common feedstock treatment plant and a total output capacity of 70,000 gallons per day are tested simultaneously.

The Ministry of Overseas Development has met the cost of the equipment. The programme has been organised, under contract to the Ministry, by the Authority's Desalination Group at Winfrith, whose engineers have also supervised the installation of the equipment. Ames Crosta Ltd. of Heywood, Lancs, have supplied one reverse osmosis module and Paterson Candy International Ltd. of Whitchurch, Hants, the others, together with the feedwater treatment plant. The Cyprus Government provided and modified two trailers on which the equipment is mounted and a mobile diesel generator to supply power for the pumps; they are also providing the operating staff for the plant.

Further information about the installation from: A. T. Hooper, Desalination Group, AEE Winfrith, Dorset (tel. Dorchester (0305) 3111, ext. 3483).

The offshore business – a European workshop

A workshop sponsored by the Engineering Industries Association and the Offshore Suppliers Information Centre is being held at the Grosvenor House Hotel on 3-5 December.

The Workshop aims to help engineering and services companies in Europe to indentify the pattern of future technology in recovering oil and gas from the seabed; it aims to assess the requirements of the oil companies, operators and contractors and identify the engineering skills to build up the onshore support facilities.

Delegates will be given the opportunity to study case histories and investigate at first hand developments in specific fields of the industry.

In addition to a large contingent of British representatives, Dutch firms are expected to take part.

Details may be obtained from the Engineering Industries Association, Equitable House, Lyon Road, Harrow. (01-863 9188).

Industrial boilers in a clean environment

As far as industrial boilers are concerned, fluidised combustion has many advantages, both in terms of heat and power generation as well as in reducing the pollution associated with fossil fuel.

Babcock and Wilcox Ltd. and Combustion Systems Ltd. are now participating in a joint enterprise to develop and commercialise British expertise in this field, particularly in steam and power generation. They are already engaged in the joint operation of a commercial-scale boiler plant employing this principle which has recently been commissioned at Babcock's works at Renfrew.

When a bed of finely divided particles is subjected to an evenly distributed, upward, low-velocity flow of gas, the gas passes through the bed without disturbing the particles.

However, if the velocity of the gas is steadily increased, a point will be reached at which the individual particles will be forced upwards by the flow so as to be suspended in the gas stream.

If the gas velocity is increased further an important change takes place. The bed becomes highly turbulent and rapid mixing of the particles occurs. The surface is no longer well defined but appears diffuse and bubbles of 'gas' similar to those formed in a boiling liquid rise through the bed. A bed in this state is said to be fluidised.

Such techniques can be used to produce energy by burning even the cheapest and dirtiest grades of solid or liquid fuel in a bed of inert particles kept in suspension. The process is simple and can economically combine high efficiency with environmental cleanliness. It has many advantages compared with conventional coalfired or oilfired systems. It reduces industry's demand for high grade fuels because it can use virtually any fuel, liquid or solid, including those with high ash or sulphur content – amongst them heavy oils. At the same time atmospheric pollution is decreased because it produces stack gases with minimal sulphur dioxide and oxides of nitrogen.

Babcock and Wilcox are known worldwide as technical and commercial leaders in the design and supply of plant for generation of steam and power from fossil and nuclear fuel. Combustion Systems Ltd. is Britain's foremost fluidised combustion development organisation, formed jointly by the National Coal Board, British Petroleum, and the National Research Development Corporation.

The new organisation will give potential customers access to the research facilities of laboratories associated with Combustion Systems Ltd. – such as the British Coal Utilisation Research Association, the NCB Coal Research Establishment and the BP Research Centre – together with the engineering expertise of Babcock and Wilcox and the development capabilities of their Renfrew research organisation, now supplemented by the fluidised boiler installation.

BOTB British Overseas Trade Board

Time for a new look at Romania

The signature by the Prime Minister of a new long term economic Co-operation Agreement with Romania marks an important new stage in the development of economic relations with the UK. This article examines some of the opportunities.

During his visit to Romania last week the Prime Minister, Harold Wilson, signed an important ten-year Co-operation Agreement between the United Kingdom and Romania. The Agreement, which was signed for Romania by the President, Nicolae Ceausescu, will be published this autumn as a White Paper.

The Prime Minister's visit and the signing of the new Agreement come at a very significant stage in the development of British economic relations with Romania. For the last few years our exports to Romania have remained at a relatively low level – indeed they actually fell in 1973 and 1974. However, the trade figures for the first eight months of 1975 show a very significant improvement in this position. The value of orders won by British companies in Romania started to rise in the second half of 1974, and has continued to rise ever since.

Five year plan

Moreover this new development has come at a time when Romania is preparing to enter the period of her next five year plan, when she will be continuing her major programme of industrialisation. We know that there will be major opportunities for Western firms to be associated with the expansion of Romania's metallurgical, petrochemical, engineering and energy industries. There is also a good deal of evidence to suggest that the Romanian authorities are anxious to diversify their trade, and that they are ready to place more orders in the United Kingdom – provided of course that the prices and conditions are right.

The time seems right, therefore – following the signature of the new agreement – for British companies to have a new look at the Romanian market. There are, of course, many companies who are already familiar with the market and well established there, but it is clear that if we are to increase our exports to Romania it will be necessary for new firms to look seriously at the possibilities that exist for them in Romania.

Framework for co-operation

The new Co-operation Agreement itself provides a framework for all forms of economic, industrial and technological co-operation between British firms and organisations and their counterparts. The agreement reinforces on a more lasting basis the arrangement established by the five year Co-operation Agreement signed in 1972, which will continue in existence until 1977.

Under the Agreement both governments undertake to support and encourage all those forms of co-operation, including co-operation in third markets, that can contribute to the general expansion of economic relations between Romania and the United Kingdom. The Agreement gives important guidance to companies and enterprises in both countries by specifying those industries in which it is thought that the best prospects for worthwhile co-operation exist, and by suggesting some of the more important forms this co-operation may take. It envisages increased co-operation, involving in some cases joint manufacture or marketing, as well as the exchange of information and licences, in among others the chemical, transport, metallurgical, engineering and energy industries. Provision is made in the Agreement for an annual review of its implementation by the existing Anglo/Romanian Joint Governmental Commission, which is also given the task of examining the possibilities of co-operation in further industrial sectors.

Advice and assistance

Those companies that decide to explore the Romanian market in the light of the new Agreement can turn to a wide range of Government services for advice and assistance – in fact all the normal services of the Department of Trade and the British Overseas Trade Board are available to exporters to Romania on the same basis as for any other world market.

In London, the Department's Commercial Relations and Exports Division can provide general advice on the particular conditions encountered in trading with Romania, and the Commercial Section of the British Embassy in Bucharest will be happy to offer all possible advice and assistance, particularly in making contact with the right state trading organisations.

In addition, the International Technological Collaboration Unit (at Culham Laboratory, Abingdon, Oxfordshire) is well equipped, both through its regular working contacts with Romanian organisations, and through its representation on the Joint Commission, to help bring together possible co-operation partners in the two countries.

Energy and initiative of individual firms

But in the last resort, however effective the help and support given through the official Government services or through the various trade bodies, successful exporting to Romania must depend on the energy and initiative of individual firms concerned. Those interested in the Romanian market, or indeed any East European market, must be prepared to commit sufficient time and effort to it. Nothing can replace the need for direct personal contacts, and success cannot be expected if contact is made only by correspondence. It is undoubtedly true that exporting to Romania – as to Eastern Europe generally – calls for a very considerable commitment of time and effort, often on the part of senior executives.

Results are seldom seen quickly but many companies have found that their persistence and effort has paid off with very worthwhile business both in Romania and in third countries. We believe that more firms could find the same to be true in their own cases: the opportunities are undoubtedly there, and we hope that they will be seized by British firms.

Those companies that do decide to explore the Romanian market are invited to make full use of all the services described in this article. The first point of contact should be the export section of the nearest regional office of the Department of Trade.

BOTB News

The annual meeting of the European Trade Committee of the British Overseas Trade Board and the Commercial Diplomatic Officers of Western European countries in session at the Department of Trade in London on 19 September. Chaired by Sir Derek Ezra, the meeting discussed UK trade promotion policy.

UK businessmen take part in 'Opportunity Italy' seminar

Over 50 UK businessmen, with interests ranging from shipping and engineering to banking and publishing, took part in an export seminar on trade opportunities with Italy on 16 September. The seminar, entitled 'Opportunity Italy', was held at the Café Royal in London and was sponsored by the British Overseas Trade Board and the London Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

Up-to-date information

Its purpose was to provide up-to-date information to companies wishing either to establish themselves in the Italian market, or to develop their trade with Italy.

Six speakers

Chairman of the seminar was Sir Charles Forte, deputy chairman of Trust Houses Forte Ltd. The six speakers included Mr. R. Thompson, president of the British Chamber of Commerce in Milan, who spoke about the view of the locally established British businessman; Signor M. Castagna, managing director of the Italian Institute for Foreign Trade in London, who spoke on how to do good business with the Italians; and Signor A. Novarino, chief foreign manager of the Banco di Sicilia whose topic was finance and investment in Italy.

Italian Ambassador

The Italian Ambassador, Signor Roberto Ducci, and Sir Geoffrey Howe, formerly Minister for Trade and Consumer Affairs, were among the other speakers.

Profitability for the smaller company

The British Overseas Trade Board's director of co-ordination, Alan Titchener, chaired a one-day conference on 'Profitability for the Smaller Company', organised by the World Trade Institute on Tuesday, 23 September.

It examined the opportunities and principal cost areas in marketing overseas, and was designed to be of practical help to small and medium-sized firms.

This was the first of 10 one-day conferences all specifically geared to the international aspects of trading.

The World Trade Institute is the teaching arm of the World Trade Centre, and the conferences will be held at the World Trade Centre, St. Katherine's Docks, London.

BOTB leaflet for businessmen

The British Overseas Trade Board has recently published a revised edition of their leaflet, which gives details of the Board's membership, and information on Area Advisory Groups, and how the Board's work helps British exporters.

Copies are available from the BOTB Publicity Unit, Room 231A, 1 Victoria Street, tel. 01-215 3221.

Name and address with cable

British firms cabling an overseas organisation for the first time should ensure that they include their name and full postal address. There is no comprehensive directory of cable addresses, and commercial departments in British embassies are often unable to help local firms who ask them to trace British firms from their cable address.

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Exhibitions and Fairs

Trying his hand at operating a Blaw Knox road paving machine during the Brno International Engineering Fair is (right) Eric Deakins, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Trade. Mr. Deakins visited the stands of the 64 UK firms which took part in the fair from 10-18 September, under the auspices of the British Overseas Trade Board. This machine, which is the largest in the Blaw Knox range, is designed to operate on major roads and airfields, where it will lay a variety of road building materials including crushed stone and dry-lean concrete.

Dr. Taro Takemi (centre), President of the Japan Medical Association, being greeted at the opening night reception of the second British Medical Equipment Exhibition in Tokyo, by Professor Alex Campton Smith, Nuffield Professor of Anaesthetics. Professor Campton Smith was the star speaker at the technical seminar which was concurrent with the exhibition from 9-13 September. Introducing the two is Mr. E. J. Field (second from right), First Secretary in the British Embassy's Commercial Department; also in the photograph is Mr. C. S. R. Giffard (second left), Minister Commercial and Economic at the Embassy, who hosted the reception, and Mr. F. J. Aldridge (far right), Deputy Under-Secretary and Controller of Supply at the Department of Health and Social Security. The exhibition was held at the British Export Marketing Centre, Tokyo, and was sponsored by the British Overseas Trade Board.

Distinguished display at Dusseldorf

From H. C. Von Massenbach, British Consulate-General, Commercial Section, Düsseldorf: Düsseldorf's 2nd Igedo Dessous Fair for lingerie, foundation garments and swimwear, which ran parallel with the 106th Igedo International Fashion Fair from 7-10 September proved an unqualified success. Some 136 foreign exhibitors, together with 105 German firms, presented a comprehensive and impressive display. Over 550 collections reflecting latest under-garment fashion creations were on show to trade buyers from all parts of Europe and other continents.

There were almost twice as many firms as at last year's 1st Igedo event, including fashion leaders of international standing. Some 15,400 of the total 32,000 trade visitors attending both fairs visited the Dessous exhibition halls, where the atmosphere was marked by intensive buying activity throughout the four-day period. Most satisfying for the 19 British firms showing in the Dessous halls was the very positive and encouraging response of trade buyers from all parts of Europe, the Federal Republic of Germany in particular, to the British display. This so distinguished itself on design, styling, quality and price, in the face of strong foreign representations from France, Italy, Switzerland and the Netherlands, that the British exhibitors were kept busy on their feet throughout the period of the fair.

Seventeen British firms exhibited under the sponsorship of the Clothing Export Council, in co-operation with the British Overseas Trade Board under the joint venture scheme. The Courtaulds Group was present in strength, with eight of its companies showing a wide range of lingerie, nightwear, foundation garments, beach and swimwear and housecoats, in addition to lingerie and nightwear fabrics. One of the highlights of the group's success at the fair was a major breakthrough into one of Germany's most important store groups.

Golden Charms Ltd., with its nightwear collections, attracted strong trade interest. After last year's showing, the company had increased its booking at the fair by more than 50 per cent, with export orders to more than a dozen countries.

The swimwear producers, such as Nelbarden International Ltd., Slix Ltd. and Silhouette (Salop) Ltd., were also quite satisfied and encouraged by the market potential, though some were handicapped by not having any form of local representation. Nevertheless, useful contacts with potential agents were established, and, without exception, all the participants were determined to return to Düsseldorf to participate at the 3rd Igedo Dessous in September 1976.

British joint venture takes pride of place in Dublin

From James Graham, British Embassy, Dublin: The 5th Irish International Food, Drink and Equipment Exhibition took place in the august setting of the halls of the Royal Dublin Society (founded in 1731) from 7 to 11 September.

There were about 90 exhibitors and pride of place went to a joint venture between the British Food Export Council and the Northern Ireland Agricultural Trust, which consisted of 25 firms directed by the British Overseas Trade Board.

Of the 25 firms, 17 were from Northern Ireland, and this represented the first concerted attempt by Northern Ireland food manufacturers to tackle the Republic market. Virtually all were delighted with the warm welcome they received and the encouraging contacts they made, and they intend to develop this trade considerably in the near future. Sausages, ice-cream, frozen chips, honey, cakes and soft drinks figured prominently in their success story, and some substantial orders were secured.

English firms did well with spices, and frozen chickens, and a Scottish exhibitor did a roaring trade in gourmet soups.

Outside the joint venture stands there were several other British and Northern Ireland stands, including a very popular one for pub advertising mirrors, and a successful one for plastic bags and sheeting from an enterprising firm started part-time at home only two years ago.

On the balcony of the hall there was a fascinating selection from the Guinness museum, and to bring us up-to-date the Irish Department of Agriculture and Fisheries had a magnificent array of fruit and vegetables of Grade 1, EEC standard.

The exhibition was opened by Mark Clinton, Irish Minister for Agriculture and Fisheries. On 8 September the British joint venture stand was visited by Lord Donaldson, the Permanent Under-Secretary in the Northern Ireland Office, Belfast, accompanied by Sir Arthur Galsworthy, British Ambassador, Mr. J. Young, Permanent Secretary, Department of Agriculture, Belfast, and other officials.

The exhibition, which was sponsored by the National Retail Grocers Association, attracted 15,000 visitors in five days.

Bakers Bill Hughes (left) and Tom Muir demonstrating breadmaking to an overseas visitor on the United Malting stand at the International Fine Foods and Provisions Exhibition, ANUGA, held in Cologne from 13-18 September. United Malting, of Burton-on-Trent, was among 62 British exhibitors who took part in the fair, with the support of the British Overseas Trade Board and sponsored by the British Food Export Council and the London Chamber of Commerce. This was the largest-ever British participation at ANUGA, which is acknowledged as a major international biennial market for the food industries. The comprehensive British display included specialities, convenience foods, catering equipment, and drinks in the setting of a traditional English pub.

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Missions and Tours

Reg Smith (left), the manager designate of Britain's first commercial hospital equipment display centre, to be opened in London on 29 October, with Dr. I. O. Nsolo, Deputy Chief Medical Adviser to the Nigerian Government, at a reception given for Dr. Nsolo and three colleagues by the British Overseas Trade Board recently. The British Hospital Equipment Display Centre is the brainchild of Hoskins Ltd., of Birmingham, manufacturers of hospital bedsteads and equipment, who invited 12 companies to form the consortium of the centre. Mr. Smith is Hoskins' London representative.

Leicester Chamber's Lagos mission exceeds expectations

Orders worth £1.3 million have been brought back from Nigeria by firms taking part in the Leicester and County Chamber of Commerce mission which was in Lagos from 5-13 September. The 13-man mission was sponsored jointly by the British Overseas Trade Board and the Leicester Chamber.

Satisfactory sales

Alan Green, the Chamber's deputy secretary, who accompanied the mission, said that the response had exceeded his expectations. All of the firms taking part had achieved something during the visit, and even those who had gone without a primary selling objective had completed satisfactory sales and servicing arrangements.

Third mission

This was the Chamber's second visit to Nigeria in 18 months and the response was so good that the Chamber is now planning a third mission, which will travel in April next year.

The Chamber's next mission, the 13th in the annual series of visits to Moscow, is taking place from 22-26 September. This is also sponsored jointly by BOTB and the Chamber.

Japan export seminar

The Euro-Japanese Exchange Foundation, jointly with the University of London's School of Oriental and African Studies, is organising a two-day course for European businessmen, dealing with some of the more specific aspects of entering the Japanese market. The course is being held at the School of Oriental and African Studies, Malet Street, London WC1, from 11-12 December.

The speakers will be Professor R. Dore who will lecture on the Japanese people as consumers and businessmen; Professor Simon Coke who will talk on the wholesaling and retailing of consumer products; Mr. S. Saito of Mitsui whose topic will be company and commercial law; and Mr. J. I. McGhie, of the Department of Trade, who will speak on what the British Government can do to help the British businessman. Other experts will cover the different methods of operating in Japan, such as joint ventures, branch offices and licensing, and taxation. Ample time will be allowed by the Chairmen for discussion.

The fee will be £50, which includes all tuition, refreshments, and luncheon on both days. For further details, write to the Euro-Japanese Exchange Foundation, 8 New Row, London WC2.

GTMA in overseas trade drive

As part of a concerted overseas trade drive, the Gauge and Toolmakers' Association are following up their successful missions to South Africa and Korea by participation in exhibitions in Düsseldorf (K '75), Zurich (Microtecnic) and Hong Kong (British Engineering and Technology).

Association members will also take part in an outward mission to Brazil from 1-14 December, sponsored jointly by GTMA and the British Overseas Trade Board.

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Export Business

Victor Serry (right), managing director of Measuring and Process Control Ltd. (MPC), has recently returned from South Africa where he installed the first Plessey Computermatic timber stress grading machine on the African continent. He is shown setting up the machine with Graham Jennings of the purchasing company, York Timber of Pretoria.

Orders to Poland and Romania top £3m mark

A £100,000 order placed with W. Canning and Co. Ltd., the Birmingham-based manufacturer of electroplating and polishing equipment, pushes the company's exports to Poland and Romania to more than £3 million.

Latest order

The latest order is for two 60 ft.-long automatic machines for polishing stainless steel and aluminium components at the Polmo Omnibus Factory at Jelcz in Poland. The components form hand-rails, seat frames, luggage racks and internal and external trim sections for the French-designed bus which will be built in Poland under licence.

Dust extraction

In addition to the six-head inline centreless polishing machine for stainless steel tube and the inline conveyor type machine for polishing aluminium sections, the contract also includes the ancillary dust extraction equipment.

UK waterproof lining helps to irrigate desert

Famliner Waterproofing Lining, manufactured by D. Anderson and Son Ltd., of Manchester, is playing an important part in the Ruweiya irrigation scheme at Dubai, where salad crops and vegetables are being grown in desert sand which has previously lain barren for thousands of years.

The scheme is being built for the Dubai Government on behalf of His Highness Sheik Rashid Binsaid Almaktoum, the Ruler of Dubai, and Deputy President of the United Arab Emirates.

The crops need 8 million gallons of water each day, and this is fed constantly with fertiliser, to 500 acres of market gardens, which are split into some 70 or 80 separate plots. Famliner is being used on the 8 million gallon balancing reservoir, which is critical for the success of the scheme.

In the Dubai project, natural movement of the sand was a particular problem, and this had to be overcome during the construction of the balancing reservoir. A 4 in. concrete screed was cast, purely as a backing for Famliner, on an excavation of approximately 10,000m³, with 4m deep sloping sides. This avoided the use of a reinforced concrete lining with considerable savings in time and cost.

Famliner is loose-laid on this application, with butt joints in a staggered pattern with overlaps at the angle of the base and sides. All joints between the sheets are sealed with Famflex high tensile cover strap which is applied in hot bitumen using conventional methods. This gives a completely watertight lining.

Libya orders British agricultural equipment

Brown O'Malley International Ltd., the Hull-based agricultural consultants and exporters, have secured an order for Muir-Hill high powered, four-wheel drive tractors worth £376,500.

Delivery will be completed by the end of October 1975, when the tractors will be used on the Gefera Plain agricultural development and land reclamation programme now in progress in the Libyan Arab Republic.

Members of a Russian industrial delegation taking delivery of the first trucks to be delivered to the Soviet Union under a 325-truck contract worth in excess of £7 million awarded to Henley Forklift International of Gwent.

Glamorgan company wins £4.25 million contract for Polish gelatin plant

A contract worth £4.25 million for the supply of specialised equipment and technical assistance for the construction of a gelatin manufacturing plant at Pulawy, Poland, has been concluded by P. Leiner and Sons Ltd., Treforest, Mid-Glamorgan, with the Polish state purchasing organisation Polimex-Cekop.

The contract is in addition to one valued at £1.25 million for the supply of two gelatin raw material processing plants in Poland secured by Leiner last year.

The work will be undertaken by Leiner's engineering division which has designed and constructed processing and manufacturing plants for the Leiner group in Britain, Brazil, India, Pakistan, Nigeria and Ethiopia, and supplied gelatin encapsulation machinery to the USSR, the People's Republic of China, Bulgaria, Japan, the USA and nine other countries.

Export success in France

The biggest ever JCB export order for Europe has left the Rocester, Staffs, factory of J. C. Bamford Excavators. Included in the £1 million shipment were 64 excavator loaders and three articulated loading shovels. They will be delivered to contractors and plant buyers in France by a national network of dealers covering all 22 departments or districts. This latest shipment brings this year's value of JCB sales in France to over £3.5 million.

Mexican order for power station equipment

F. W. Brackett and Co. Ltd., a Hawker Siddeley company based in Colchester, has won a £½ million order for equipment to be installed in a Mexican nuclear power station. The contract was won against strong opposition from both United States and German competitors.

The location is the Laguna Verde power station. Bracketts will manufacture and supply eight 2.7m (108in.) wide, and four 0.6m (24in.) wide central flow band screens and two raking heads for bar screens. The order also covers a number of Brackett/Zurn pipeline strainers and ancillary equipment, including washwater pumps and electrical control equipment.

Bristol firm supplies electric motors for Russian tyre plant

Newman Electric Motors Ltd. of Bristol, the Newman Industries Group company, is to supply approximately 500 electric motors and geared units for a new tyre manufacturing plant in the Soviet Union. Ranging in size from ¼ to 50 hp, the Newman motors are being supplied in a special 'carbon-black proof' enclosure.

The order comes from Simon-Carves Ltd. who are providing a £25 million computer-controlled automated mill room and associated equipment for the Nizhnekamsk Truck Tyre Factory, near Moscow.

Biscuit machinery for Nigeria

An order in excess of £½ million has been placed by the Biscuit Manufacturing Co. of Nigeria, with the biscuit machinery division of Baker Perkins Ltd., Peterborough.

The order is for two high output, fully automated biscuit making plants. A company spokesman said that they will be the first 1.2m wide plants to go to Nigeria, and will more than double the capacity of the Lagos factory, where they will be installed alongside three other plants supplied by Baker Perkins.

The indirect oil-fired ovens will be manufactured at Baker Perkins' factory at Bedewell, County Durham, while the rest of the equipment comprising the mixers, cutting machines and other ancillary items will be made at the company's Peterborough works.

Lesotho re-equips with British transmitters

Marconi Communication Systems Ltd., a GEC-Marconi Electronics company, has won an order worth nearly £¼ million to supply broadcast transmitters to Lesotho (formerly Basutoland).

The order, which was placed by the Crown Agents for Overseas Governments and Administrations, calls for the supply of two 50kW m.f. transmitters and a range of ancillary equipment to Radio Lesotho's main station. This is located in Maseru, the country's capital. The two new transmitters will operate in parallel, replacing earlier Marconi 10kW equipment and giving Radio Lesotho enhanced programme coverage.

Delivery of the equipment will be in two parts. The first transmitter is scheduled to arrive in Lesotho at the beginning of 1976 and will go into service shortly afterwards. The second is due to arrive for paralleling with the first by the end of 1976.

Site investigation in Saudi Arabia

Foundation Engineering Ltd., a member of the Costain group, has won a £200,000 site investigation contract in Saudi Arabia.

Work consists of 25 marine boreholes and 50 soundings at various sites in the 15-mile stretch of water between Bahrain island and the Saudi Arabian coast. The area is mainly shallow water and includes a number of islands and coral reefs.

Foundation Engineering will be drilling with Pilcon Wayfarer equipment using a pendant drill for coring the rock. The drill is mounted on a floating pontoon, the position of which will be fixed by electronic techniques.

German orders for magnetic components

Orders totalling £90,000 for stereo cassette recording heads have been placed by two West German firms with Magnetic Components Ltd. of Penryn, Cornwall (a Plantation Holdings Group company).

Delivery to Blaupunkt Werke GmbH and Becker Autoradiowerke GmbH is being phased over a three-month period.

What is believed to be the first tuna fishing vessel ever made in Britain was launched from the yard of Richard Dunston (Hessle) Ltd., near Hull. It is the first of five 1,000 ton vessels built for Peru in a contract worth a total of nearly £10 million.

British engineers in Saudi Arabian pipeline project

Ewbank and Partners, the Brighton-based consulting engineers, have received instructions from Prince Mohamed Al Faisal, Governor of the Saudi Arabian Saline Water Conversion Corporation, to undertake full consulting engineering services covering the study, design and manufacture, construction and commissioning of a new £3.25 million oil pipeline and pumping station in Jeddah.

The Jeddah 'B' oil pipeline will be able to carry 50,000 barrels of oil a day to the Jeddah desalination and power plant complex from the Jeddah oil refinery, and will be about 45km long. The Jeddah 'A' oil pipeline, for which Ewbank are also responsible, is currently being commissioned.

Development of the desalination and power complex is at present being engineered by Ewbank, and will be able, when complete, to produce over 85 million gallons of potable water per day, and 850mw of electrical power.

Canadian contract for Lancashire valves

Dewrance and Co., based in Skelmersdale, Lancashire, has negotiated a contract worth about £500,000 for the supply of main high pressure steam and feed water valves for the Wesleyville generating station now under construction in Canada by Ontario Hydro.

One of many

The contract, one of many now being received by Dewrance for power station installations overseas, requires 100 per cent radiographic examination of the 108 cast steel valve bodies to be supplied as part of the order.

Due to start in 1979

Now under construction near Port Hope, the station is due to start work in 1979 and will have four 500,000kW units, each designed for firing by either residual or crude oil.

Computer feasibility study in Kuwait

Software Sciences, the Farnborough-based system house, has been awarded the contract by the Ministry of Communications, Kuwait, for a feasibility study regarding the introduction of computers into all operational aspects of the Kuwait telecommunications services. The project will be carried out jointly with Inter-Consult, a consultancy organisation based in Kuwait.

Investigating the implications

The study will investigate the implications of the introduction of computer-assisted facilities in both administrative and engineering operations of Kuwait PTT. Applications to be considered range from accounting functions such as telephone billing and payroll, through information and administrative activities like directory production and inventory control, to large-scale network management and maintenance engineering.

Alternative strategies

In examining these the study team will be concerned with the evaluation of alternative computer strategies, and in particular with the economic and functional appraisal of centralised and distributed data processing facilities. This will involve a detailed survey of existing equipment and procedures in Kuwait; the evaluation of available equipment, and the analysis of different approaches in terms of cost, current operational needs, and long-term development plans. The team's final strategic recommendations will be supported by an implementation plan covering equipment, resources required, time-scale, and training.

Second simulator for Australia

The Australian Government has commissioned the Digital Systems Division of Ferranti, Bracknell, to supply a second Air Traffic Control simulator for installation in the ATC Centre at Melbourne. The first simulator is to be situated at Sydney.

This extension increases the value of the original contract to £1¼ million.

Both simulators will be used for training new staff, validating working ATC officers, and for evaluating new aircraft control procedures. This contract emphasises the importance the Australian Department of Transport place on monitoring and improving safety standards in the air.

Displays and computer input

The two simulators destined for Australia will incorporate displays and computer input devices of the type used in Australian operational ATC systems. They will enable the second stage in ATC automation to be simulated before its introduction in the Commonwealth in the late 1970's.

Each of the Australian simulators will be able to provide a complete air traffic control environment for an air space covering some 1,448 sq. miles and 100,000 ft. high. This can be precisely similar to a real volume of airspace, complete with aircraft, radar, airways, airports, navaids and weather, or it can be varied to meet specific training requirements, and to allow trials of new procedures and routeings.

Cold roll formed steel electrodes made by Metal Sections Ltd. – a TI company of Oldbury, West Midlands – being cut to length on a flying shear. The electrodes form part of dust control equipment being supplied by AAF-Ltd., Northumberland, for a Yugoslavian cement plant.

European Community

Stanley Clinton Davis announces UK support for proposed EEC patent system

Stanley Clinton Davis, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Companies, Aviation and Shipping, has announced the Government's general support for the proposed new system of European patents under which an invention will be protected by a single patent throughout the EEC.

Addressing the congress of the Union of European Professional Patent Representatives in London on 18 September, he said that after recent 'difficult negotiations', the way was now clear for a successful conference to be held in Luxembourg in November/December to conclude the Community Patent Convention.

European Patent Office

Mr. Clinton Davis also expressed the Government's satisfaction with the preparatory work being done to set up the new European Patent Office in Munich, due to open in 1977, and able to grant patents valid in EFTA and other European countries as well as the EEC.

But he emphasised that British ratification depended on there being the possibility of substantial British representation in the staff of the European Patent Office.

'In the view of the Government, this is a pre-requisite for establishing the international credibility of the new office, having regard to the expected preponderance of English language applications,' he declared.

Community Patent Convention

Mr. Clinton Davis recalled how at the request of the British Government the Community Patent Convention had been held up for some 18 months because the Government felt there had been too much haste, and they needed more time to consider this important and far-reaching Convention, which defined new law to be applied in the UK.

'We saw two main points of difficulty,' he said. 'We were not convinced that those who wished to enjoy the benefits of the European Patent system in order to obtain protection in one or two Common Market countries should be compelled from the start to take out a Community Patent for the whole area. Neither were we satisfied with the arrangements defined in the Convention for litigating the Community Patent. I believe that these views were supported by the profession in this country.

'With a view to remedying these deficiencies, the Government submitted amendments and these have been the subject of some difficult negotiations over recent months. However, in the upshot, I can say that the amendments now made to the Convention on these points are satisfactory, and we are particularly gratified that the other countries have agreed to co-operate, after signature of the Convention, in finding an even more satisfactory long-term solution to the litigation problem. The Government intends to pursue this with vigour.

'Of course, much work still needs to be done before the Community Patent Convention is concluded – there are still some outstanding British proposals, which naturally we regard as being important and there are also many proposals from other countries which I am sure they would regard as being equally important.

'But I think the way is now clear for a successful Luxembourg Conference. I hope that all concerned will recognise that it was better to accept a delay of 18 months than to rush into an arrangement which would later be regretted, at any rate by some parties.'

Advantage for inventors

After remarking that the preparatory work for the opening of the European Patent Office was well under way, Mr. Clinton Davis said the European patent would have a tremendous advantage for inventors and the whole of industry.

'It will allow industry and inventors to obtain, by means of one application filed and processed in one language and under one law and one procedure, a European patent having effect in those countries where protection is needed. This patent should have a high presumption of validity. It could cover an economic area with a population of almost 400 million people.

'But I must point out that if the European system is to be the success in practice that we are hoping for, it is vital to ensure that the advantage gained by the users of the system is commensurate with the cost.

Acceptable number of British staff

'Additionally it is essential that no unreasonable obstacles must be placed in the way of participation of an acceptable number of British staff in the day to day work of the European Patent Office. In the view of the Government, having regard to the expected preponderance of English language applications, this is a prerequisite for establishing the international credibility of the new Office. You will all be well aware that this is a matter on which British interests have strong feelings and have expressed them strongly.

'I would like to recall the statement made by the British delegation at the start of the Munich Conference, to the effect that ratification by the UK would be dependent on the practical arrangements for implementing the Convention

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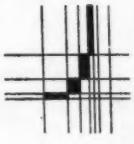
1-33070 POLCENIGO ITALY
TEL: 0434-74072



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being satisfactory in this respect. This still holds good. In this context, we think that it would have been better for the Office, or at least an examining branch, to have been located in London. We recognise, however, that that was not accepted by the majority of the other participating countries. In those circumstances we attach much importance to a substantial quota for British staff at Munich.

'We also attach more importance to the political concession set out in the Protocol on Centralisation which will allow for a substantial participation by British examiners in London if an insufficient number are prepared to transfer to Munich. The Government considers that the Protocol entitles the UK to carry out examination work in London on as much as one-third of the European applications provided that, at the relevant time, this country is able to make out a case for that amount of work within the terms of the Protocol, and we look to the Governments of other countries to support us on this and on the related question of the quota. It is important that this support should be seen to be forthcoming in the negotiations prior to ratification. It must not be left as a pious hope for the future.'

British Patent Office

Referring to developments in London, Mr. Clinton Davis said that over the years, the input to the British Patent Office had risen to around 60,000 a year, some 70 per cent of the patent applications coming from abroad.

Increasingly inventors the world over were not long satisfied with securing protection only in their own countries. The result of this multi-national filing was that a lot of the administrative work performed in the Patent Office of one country was duplicated in other offices. Patents were now essentially international in character, and to cope with this, international solutions were required.

Concluding his speech, Mr. Clinton Davis said that the British Government looked forward to, and was committed to, translating the results of studies into the European patent into reality. The European system would soon be put to the service of industry and inventors through the intermediary of practitioners. He urged his audience to keep in mind the practical ideals of efficiency and economy which had been at the heart of UK Government policy all through the long stage of preparation for the European system.

Ten UK members appointed to Economic and Social Committee

Len Murray, General Secretary of the Trades Union Congress, and Jack Jones, General Secretary of the Transport and General Worker's Union, are among 10 newly appointed members of the EEC's Economic and Social Committee. The appointments, which were approved by the Community's Foreign Affairs Ministers at their Council meeting on 15 September, cover the period ending on 16 September 1978.

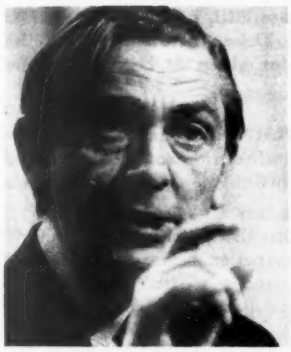
The Economic and Social Committee, which, like the European Assembly, has a consultative function as far as Commission proposals are concerned, has a total of 144 members; the UK has an allocation of 24 seats. Members represent the various categories of economic and social activity throughout the Community in three broad categories – employers, employees and other interests.

The 10 new UK members are:

Lord Allen	*General Secretary, Union of Shop, Distributive and Allied Workers*
David Basnett	*General Secretary, National Union of General and Municipal Workers*
Reginald N. Bottini	*General Secretary, National Union of Agricultural and Allied Workers*
Lord Briginshaw	*Formerly General Secretary, National Society of Operative Printers, Graphical and Media Personnel*
Jack L. Jones	*General Secretary, Transport and General Workers' Union*
Terence Parry	*General Secretary, Fire Brigades Union*
Marie Patterson	*National Woman Officer, Transport and General Workers' Union*
Lionel Murray	*General Secretary, Trades Union Congress*
W. G. N. Miller	*Executive Director of Save and Prosper Ltd.*
Guy Hunter	*Overseas Development Institute*

ECSC Consultative Committee

The Foreign Ministers Council also approved the appointments of Joe Gormley and Lawrence Daly, President and Secretary respectively of the National Union of Mineworkers, to the European Coal and Steel Community Consultative Committee for the period ending on 26 June next year.



New members of the Economic and Social Committee.

British research centre wins Community contract

The Department of Industry's Computer Aided Design Centre, Cambridge, has completed a consultancy contract with the European Communities Commission. The purpose is to identify computer aided design projects acceptable to Member States and suitable for Community support.

The outcome was a recommendation to the Community by the Working Group of National Experts for two in-depth EEC-based CAD studies.

The Centre, in conjunction with the Electronics Engineering Association, is now actively engaged in examining further projects for Community support. One of these concerns use of circuit analysis programs, which represent large investment but are seldom used because of excessive difficulty with component models and access to suitable component guidelines.

The objective of this new proposal is to improve use of analysis programs by a direct attack on problem areas. CAD Centre and EEA are proposing to the Commission that a Community data base of active semi-conductor component parameters should be set up and an investigation into circuit and logic analysis models and their associated programs should be carried out.

CADC, and EEA, are holding discussions on behalf of a Community working group with organisations interested in co-operating to provide additional component guidelines needed for advanced device and circuit models now in use. Complementary investigations are taking place in other EEC countries.

New EC Legislation

Applications for copies of the *Official Journal of the European Communities* containing the legislation referred to should be made to HMSO and not to the inquiry points given int he notices.

The legislation listed below has been published in the 'Official Journal of the European Communities' as indicated against each item. The 'Official Journal' is now published in English and copies should be obtained from HMSO. Information about the items listed, in so far as other Member States' requirements are concerned, is available to British exporters from Department of Trade, Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel. 01-248 5757, ext. 4174/482/408). Other information may be obtained from the reference point given at the end of the item.

COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY. The texts of the following Regulations and Decisions which affect the various agricultural sectors in the EEC have been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*.

Oils, fats and oilseeds. Regulation (EEC) 2291/75 determining for the marketing year 1975/76 intervention centres for sunflower seeds, other than the main centres, and the derived intervention prices applicable in these centres (*Official Journal* L235, 6 September 1975).

Cattle, beef and veal. Decision 75/534/EEC determining the minimum rate of levy for the issue during the month of August 1975 of import licences for beef and veal under the 'EXIM' arrangements (*Official Journal* L236, 8 September 1975).

Regulation (EEC) 2331/75 on the fixing of an additional period in September 1975 for the submission of applications for import licences for certain beef and veal products, by way of derogation from Regulation (EEC) 1090/75 (EXIM) (*Official Journal* L240, 12 September 1975).

Milk and milk products. Regulation (EEC) 2319/75 amending Regulation (EEC) 1519/75 as regards the expiration of the storing period for long-keeping cheeses (*Official Journal* L239, 11 September 1975).

Seeds. Decision 75/537/EEC authorising Germany to permit, for a period which expires on 31 December 1975, the marketing of bitter lupin seed satisfying less stringent requirements (*Official Journal* L237, 9 September 1975).

Wine. Decision 75/538/EEC authorising Italy to reduce for Sicily the minimum lengths of certain vine propagation material (*Official Journal* L237, 9 September 1975).

IMPORTS FROM NON-MEMBER STATES. The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L236, 8 September 1975 contains the texts of the following Decisions:

Decision 75/523/EEC authorising France not to apply Community treatment to clothing and clothing articles in textiles other than cotton, falling within heading Nos. ex 61.01, ex 61.02 and ex 61.03 of the Common Customs Tariff, originating in Hong Kong and in free circulation in the other Member States.

Decision 75/525/EEC authorising France not to apply Community treatment to radio receivers, whether or not combined with a sound recorder or reproducer, falling within subheading 85.15 A III of the Common Customs Tariff, originating in Hong Kong and in free circulation in the other Member States.

COMMON CUSTOMS TARIFF. Tobacco. Decision 75/536/EEC authorising Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands to postpone raising their customs tariff duties to the level of those of the Common Customs Tariff as regards manufactured tobacco falling within tariff subheadings 24.02 A, B, C and D (*Official Journal* L237, 9 September 1975).

Application for acceleration to the CCT rate of duty

The Department of Trade has received an application for acceleration to the Common Customs Tariff rate of duty with effect from 1 January 1976 on the following item listed in Part 9A of HM Customs and Excise Tariff. If granted, the product in question will become dutiable at the rate of 8.8 per cent.

Tariff heading	Description	Current rate of duty	Reference
28.42	Nickel carbonate	5.2%	T 6962/G

Representations should be addressed to Department of Trade, General Division, Kingsgate House, 66-74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SJ, quoting the reference shown above. These should be received not later than 10 October 1975.

Li Lien-Pi pictured with the current President of the EEC Council of Ministers, Mariano Rumor, after presenting his credentials as Chinese Ambassador to the Community. (AP Wirephoto)

Free service for businessmen

The EEC Information Unit helps firms of all types and sizes by answering general questions about EEC membership and by guiding them where necessary to more specialised information sources.

New customers are always welcome, particularly firms new to EEC questions.

The unit's address is: EEC Information Unit, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET. Tel: 01-215 4301 (six lines).

The Community's Business Co-operation Centre

Looking for a business partner elsewhere in the Community? . . . You might find him here

Reference BRE/3494/43
Irish company, part of larger group, engaged in the weaving of:

1 Filament fabrics for:
dry filtration, ie primarily dust control in flour milling, cement, mining, coal, gas, and food industry;
wet filtration in ceramic industry and effluent stations;
industrial bags, laundry bags;
other engineering applications.
2 Lining fabrics for ladies and gents clothes in viscose, acetate, and triacetate.
3 Industrial fabrics, primarily destined to producers of: coatings, PVC for truck and railway tarpaulins, protective clothing, tents, inflatable boats, flexible containers, conveyor belting fabrics, air support tents, etc.

Turnover £2.3 million, of which 78 per cent is exported, (group-turnover £12 million), 300 employees, seeks EEC partner with a good technical expertise in production of filters, with a view to building-up of a joint company in Ireland on a 50/50 basis (total capital investment estimated at £2.5 million) for production and sales to world markets of filters for multiple uses, for which the Irish partner would supply the fabrics.
Languages: English.

Reference BRE/3244/50
Italian company specialised in industrial building (furnace linings and construction of stacks), turnover 2,500 million lire, 200 employees, seeks to co-operate with firms of a similar size operating in the same sector in France, Germany, Belgium and the United Kingdom. Such co-operation might include the exclusive utilisation in Italy of sliding formwork for stacks with advice provided by the partner's technicians, in exchange for the partner's use of the Italian firm's technologies and the assistance of Italian technicians (linings for open-hearth furnaces, demolition and construction of stacks, etc.).
Languages: French, Italian, English, German.

Reference BRE/3356/467
Italian co-operative group in the furniture industry (production in mainly bedroom furniture 40 per cent, and living/dining room 30 per cent; 15 per cent of turnover is exported) consisting of 90 firms (with a total of 6,000 employees and a turnover of about £60 million), seeks a partner in the United Kingdom, Germany and France. The partner must operate in the manufacture and/or distribution of furniture, know his own national market and have a turnover of at least £6 million. The co-operation could consist, say, of a specialisation of production or setting up a joint venture for distribution of the products of both partners.
Languages: French, English, German.

Reference BRE/3235/619
French company, distributor of books, educational materials for infant schools, audio-visual material, tape recorders and records, turnover FF 5 million, 50 employees of whom 35 are exclusive representatives, selling mainly to schools and local authorities, seeks a British partner with a view to improving its development. The co-operation could take the form of setting up a joint venture or a shareholding in the French company by the partner.
Languages: French, German, English.

The Commission of the European Communities set up the Business Co-operation Centre last year to encourage co-operation between firms in different Member States wishing to increase competitiveness and respond to the opportunities opened up by access to the Community's markets. Co-operation is defined as the pooling of one or more activities of the partner firms; for example, in research and development, supplies, production, marketing and sales and management.

A firm seeking the Centre's help will be asked to provide certain information about itself, and to define exactly what type of partner and what type of co-operation it wants. All the information supplied, and any inquiries received, are treated as strictly confidential, and no names are revealed without the agreement of all parties. The Centre will search its files for a suitable partner, and, if the application cannot be matched with an offer already registered, will, if the firm agrees, circulate a summary of the firm's requirements, with no names mentioned, to the 'correspondents' which it has in every country of the Community.

It is one of the Centre's correspondents in this country that we reproduce the latest batch of requests for co-operation. Readers wishing to obtain further information should write direct to the Centre at the following address, quoting the reference number of the request[s] in which they are interested: Business Co-operation Centre, rue Archimede 17, B-1040 Brussels. The Centre makes no charge for its services.

Reference BRE/3350/839
Recently established Italian firm of consultants for industrial activities connected with agriculture, comprising 10 technicians and a further 20 occasional collaborators, seeks co-operation in the United Kingdom, Belgium, the Netherlands and Denmark.
The firm's activities cover:

1 Design, construction and delivery on a turnkey basis of meat and fish canning factories;
2 Market research for the launching of new products on the domestic market;
3 Consultation and analyses relative to production costs and economics.

The partner sought should operate in similar fashion in Northern European countries with a view to:

1 exchange of market research and information;
2 joint studies (pooling experience and financial means) with the aim of identifying opportunities offered by the developing countries in this field.

Languages: French, English.

EEC information for businessmen: free booklet

EEC – Your Questions Answered, an 87-page booklet published by the EEC Information Unit, contains answers to businessmen's inquiries on a wide range of EEC subjects. These include trade with EFTA and other countries associated with Community, customs procedures and documentation, tariffs, market information and non-tariff barriers to trade.

The booklet also provides basic information about the role of the Community institutions and has articles on the ECSC, Euratom and the European Investment Bank. The final section of the booklet is devoted to time-saving reference material including a glossary of abbreviations, lists of publications and 18 pages of useful addresses and contacts in Europe and the UK.

Copies are available, free of charge, from the EEC Information Unit, Department of Industry, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, tel. 01-215 4301 (6 lines).

Trade Information

Problems of Japanese import penetration can be solved by discussion

At a time of recession no responsible government could disregard the implications of rapid import growth for the employment of its own citizens, particularly if that import growth were concentrated on a few sensitive industries, said Peter Shore, Secretary of State for Trade, in a speech to the British Chamber of Commerce in Tokyo on 18 September.

Mr. Shore said: 'I would not pretend that there are not problems in Anglo-Japanese trade, of which the problems of import penetration in Britain are currently the most obvious. But I do not believe that any of these are problems which cannot be solved by discussions and an understanding of each other's difficulties. I recently read with interest the report of the Co-ordination Committee of the 1975 Trade Conference, which advises the Japanese Prime Minister on trade policy. This report pointed out – and I quote – "that an uncontrolled, disorderly rise in imports is to be avoided as this would not provide favourable conditions for the healthy growth of trade on a long-term basis". It went on to recommend that all countries should strive for the establishment of orderly export patterns.

'I wholeheartedly endorse this approach. The British Government see no attraction in the imposition of import controls. They are certainly very much a second best to the early revival of our exports and to the expansion of world trade, which is our primary objective. But at a time of recession no responsible government can disregard the implications of rapid import growth for the employment of its own citizens, particularly if that import growth is concentrated on a few sensitive industries. I am sure that the Government of Japan would be responsive to the needs of its own industries faced with a similar threat. They will understand, therefore, that we can be no less responsive to the interests of our own industries. Indeed, I believe that all reasonable people would support the views in the Trade Conference Report which I have quoted.

'In the United States, France, Germany and here in Japan some measures of reflation have been taken. Only yesterday the Japanese Government announced more substantial reflationary measures. We certainly welcome this. But the hard fact is that there is as yet very little firm evidence of recovery in the world economy.

'All governments – and particularly the largest and strongest economies – have a continuing responsibility to do what lies within their power to sustain international demand and the growth of world trade. This is not just in the interest of those countries whose economies are relatively weak at the present time: It is in the interest of the whole world trading community.

'In finished manufactured goods, where our export drive has been particularly strong, our sales have continued to increase (despite the recession) and we have done substantially better than many of our competitors.

'Nevertheless our visible trade balance with Japan is in substantial and widening deficit. I wish that I could derive comfort from the figures prepared by the Bank of Japan which claim that Britain's surplus on invisible trade with Japan far exceeds our deficit on visibles. It appears to us, however, that these figures record gross and not net flows to the UK. They take no account of the common situation in which, for example over the chartering of a ship on the Baltic Exchange or the floating of a Euro-currency loan, the United Kingdom acts as an intermediary between Japan and a third country. In our view the true figures are well below those quoted by the Bank of Japan, and leave us in clear deficit on visibles and invisibles taken together. But I do not want to be misunderstood. The contribution which our invisibles are making to our trade with Japan is very important indeed.

'As far as the British Government are concerned – and I am sure that this goes for British industry as well – our export effort in Japan will be vigorously maintained. MITI's Industrial Structure Council has forecast that the volume of Japan's imports will increase over the next 10 years at an average annual rate of 7½ per cent. If Britain does no more than hold her present share, Japan will almost certainly be among our top half-dozen export markets by 1985. We shall not just wait for this to happen. We have made, and will continue to make, a major effort in the Japanese market.'

Japan aware of Britain's concern over car imports says Peter Shore

At a Tokyo Press conference on 19 September Peter Shore, Secretary of State for Trade, said that the Japanese Government and industry were now fully aware of the United Kingdom's concern about the level and trend of Japanese car imports into the United Kingdom. The sharply upward trend so far in 1975 would certainly not continue in the rest of the year.

He preferred to say nothing about the future (ie 1976) because discussions had not yet concluded.

In answer to questions about cars, Mr. Shore said that solutions depended on marketing objectives of Japanese firms and he was sure they had modified their marketing aims (and forecasts). The forecasts, he confirmed, were industry's. There had not been orderly 'marketing' but the trend would change.

Given the 60 per cent increase that had already taken place in 1975 over 1974, the change in the trend would not give so sharp a downturn to bring it down to the 1974 total, but there would be a considerable reduction in vehicles shipped to the United Kingdom. This should not lead to more EEC imports. A good deal of Japanese imports were small cars, and the United Kingdom had its own product which would benefit.

President Park Chung Hee, of the Republic of Korea, greets Peter Shore when the British Secretary of State for Trade visited the country during his Far East tour (*Trade and Industry*, 19 September 1975, page 666).

Japanese firms had to consider all kinds of factors in considering market strategy. They knew the problems of over-rapid building up and penetration of a market, and could take a longer-term view.

The anti-dumping application was in a state of suspense with the agreement of the manufacturers.

Mr. Shore had found a considerable understanding of the United Kingdom difficulty and positions, and some Japanese manufacturers – he had spoken to some – knew it was right to proceed in an orderly way. What they said confirmed the general expectation.

The assurance about the trend had been conveyed by the Government as a result of their understanding of the forecasts and plans of firms. If it did not work, he would have to consider import controls. He hoped that that situation could be avoided.

UN Council for Namibia's decree on natural resources

The United Nations Council for Namibia passed a decree in September 1974 which threatened seizure and forfeiture by or on behalf of the Council of any vehicle, ship or container found to be carrying animal, mineral or other natural resources produced in or emanating from the territory of Namibia. Firms or associations who would like a copy of the text of the decree and further information should contact:

Shipping Policy Division (tel. 01-217 4746), in the case of shipowners or charterers;

Insurance Division (tel. 01-215 5369 or 01-215 5830), in the case of insurers of cargoes or vessels; or

Commercial Relations and Exports Division 2 (tel. 01-215 5229 or 01-215 5268) in the case of importers of goods from Namibia.

Application for temporary exemption from import duty

The Department of Trade is considering applications for the temporary exemption from import duty of the materials listed below on the grounds that these materials are not made in this country or the Commonwealth or the supply available is not substantial having regard to the existing United Kingdom demand.

Representations are invited from manufacturers in this country or agents of Commonwealth manufacturers who consider they are, or will be within a reasonable period, in a position to supply a substantial proportion of the United Kingdom demand for these materials, or who are interested in their future production.

Temporary exemptions come into effect on the operative date of the Treasury Order in which the materials are specified and will remain in operation until the date shown in column 4 below or for such shorter period as may be justified.

Interested parties who wish to make representations should address them to General Division, Department of Trade, Kingsgate House, 66/74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SJ, preferably through a Trade Association, giving the respective reference shown below and stating whether their names may be passed to the applicants for temporary exemption.

Representations should be received by 10 October.

Tariff heading	Proposed definition for tariff purposes	Applied for as	Exemption required until	Reference
29.06	2,7 Dihydroxynaphthalene	As in previous column	30 June 1977	T 15698
48.05	Creped impregnating paper of a kind used for masking tape manufactured wholly from semi-bleached sulphate cellulose fibre, weighing not less than 45g/m² and not more than 54g/m²	Creped impregnating paper	30 June 1977	T 14329

Application for reimposition of import duty on EEC goods and associated reductions of duty on non-EEC goods

The Department of Trade has received applications for the reimposition of the United Kingdom 'M' and 'full' rate of duties with effect from 1 January 1976 on the following items. This is in response to the notice of the Annual Review in *Trade and Industry* on 22 August 1975.

Tariff heading	Description	Reference
29.14	Vinyl acetate	T 6666
32.07	Pigments, white, dry, containing not less than 90.0% but less than 96.0% by weight of titanium dioxide, and which, when dispersed in four times their weight of a solution containing 50.0% by weight of melamine formaldehyde resin having a mole ratio of 0.5 to 1 cause no visible greying on a filter paper which has been dipped in the dispersion, dried, cured, and exposed to ultra-violet radiation sufficient to initiate fading of the number 5 reference standard of British Standard 1006:1953	T 10480
40.11	Tyre cases and inner tubes of the kind suitable for bicycles and invalid carriages (not mechanically propelled) but not including cases and tubes which have been used or reconditioned	T 11915

Representations should be addressed to Department of Trade, General Division, Kingsgate House, 66/74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SJ, giving the reference shown above. These should be received by 10 October 1975.

Quality assurance agency to assist trade between UK and Iran

An important new agency established by the British Standards Institution and the Institute of Standards and Industrial Research of Iran (ISIRI) is expected to provide considerable assistance to trade between the UK and Iran. Known as the BSI/ISIRI Quality Assurance Agency, it has been established to break down the technical barriers to trade between the two countries in order to facilitate inter-trading.

With a predicted annual growth rate of 60 per cent between now and 1978, Iran is the fastest growing import market in the world. Their massive long-term development drive, aimed primarily at building up non-oil sectors of the economy, has opened up a wide range of opportunities for foreign exporters with goods such as agricultural equipment, building products, construction equipment, textile machinery, process plant, automotive components, machine tools, welding equipment, packaging machinery and domestic electrical equipment.

Iran has a number of mandatory standards, many of which affect imports. In addition, there are numerous voluntary standards, which are scheduled to become mandatory and will therefore mean the introduction of requirements for product certification. Recognising that these standards could present a serious obstacle to potential UK exporters, BSI negotiated with ISIRI, and as a result the new agency was formed.

Based at BSI's Hemel Hempstead Centre, the agency will provide a unique service for the manufacturer who is looking at Iran as a possible outlet for his products, making available vital information on Iranian technical requirements. When necessary, the agency will carry out approval tests on products and award the ISIRI mark to those that comply with the Iranian requirements.

Naval officers from four countries inspect machined compressor castings during a tour of the Poole, Dorset, works of Hamworthy Engineering Ltd. The four were among a party of 17 engineering officers from Britain and four overseas countries who visited the company to see some of the equipment for whose operation and maintenance they might eventually become responsible. The officers are from (left to right) Venezuela, Canada, Britain and Nigeria. In the centre is John Atkins, spares and services manager, in Hamworthy's pump and compressor division.

For further details, contact Mike Kemp, the BSI/ISIRI Quality Assurance Agency, British Standards Institution, Maylands Avenue, Hemel Hempstead, Herts HP2 4SQ, tel. Hemel Hempstead (STD 0442) 3111.

'Trade with Iran' seminar

An introductory course for businessmen, with emphasis on methods of doing business with Iranian partners, is being held at the Centre for International Briefing, Farnham Castle, from 13-15 October 1975, in collaboration with the London Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

The seminar is being chaired by Kenneth Bradford, chief inspector of the British Bank of the Middle East, and among the other nine speakers from commerce and Government will be Sir Dennis Wright, former Ambassador to Tehran, and Mr. P. M. S. Corley, of the Commercial Relations and Exports Division, Department of Trade. There will also be four separate business opportunities workshop groups.

The fee for the course is £100, including accommodation and all meals.

Bookings and further information: Course Secretary, Farnham Castle, Farnham, Surrey (tel. 02513 21194).

Travel to Yemen Arab Republic

The Department of Tourism in Yemen have asked that no group of tourists be despatched to Yemen other than through an agency having an office in Yemen and licensed by the the Department of Tourism. Inquiries: CRE5 Division, Department of Trade (tel. 01-215 3454).

Hints to business men booklets

A revised edition of the booklet on Sri Lanka has been published in the 'Hints to Business Men' series. British business men who intend visiting this country on export business can obtain copies of the booklet from Export Services and Promotions Division, Department of Trade, Room D 05-09, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU, tel. 01-248 5757, ext. 7146, or any Regional Office of the Department of Industry.

Air mail for export correspondence

All correspondence overseas should be done by air but care should be taken that mail is fully stamped as correspondence may be delayed and export opportunities lost. Outside busy periods, such as Christmas, the Post Office often makes up postage on insufficiently stamped airmail letters (though this cannot be guaranteed) provided the sender's name and address appears on the envelope. An insufficiently stamped airmail letter not having this information may be sent surface mail or the addressee may be called upon to pay double the missing postage. Full details of overseas postage rates (and much other useful information) are given in the Post Office Guide, obtainable at all post offices, price 20p.

Notices to Importers

Issued by the Department of Trade, Import Licensing Branch, Charles House, 375 Kensington High Street, London W14 8QH.

No. 1507: Imports of textiles from Taiwan

The Community import arrangements for textiles from Taiwan were announced in Notice to Importers No. 1501 published in *Trade and Industry* of 8 August (page 346), and importers were invited to apply not later than 29 August 1975 for allocations from the quotas.

The demand for licences in respect of goods already in transit at the date of the announcement has been so great that these amounts when added to the quantities imported or licensed before the new restrictions were imposed means that no further applications in respect of imports in 1975 can be considered. Traders should take steps to defer shipments, even where covered by irrevocable letters of credit or firm orders, until they are assured of an allocation for 1975 or 1976.

Consideration will be given to applications already received but licences, if any, for goods shipped after 8 August, will not be issued before 29 October 1975.

Inquiries: Import Licensing Branch, tel. 01-603 4644, ext. 271.

No. 1508: Imports of certain textiles from the Republic of Korea

Notice to Importers No. 1503 published in *Trade and Industry* of 22 August 1975 (page 455) announced the imposition of emergency measures by the Community to restrict imports of certain textiles from the Republic of Korea. Traders wishing to receive allocations from the quotas were invited to submit applications to Import Licensing Branch not later than 8 September 1975. In addition, applications were invited for licences for goods affected by the restrictions which could be shown to have been shipped to the UK before 22 August 1975.

The response has been large and amounts of goods for which licences have been requested considerably exceed the quota levels which have been imposed. These applications are being considered and allocations will be made in due course. No further applications for quota allocations can be accepted and all importers are advised to defer shipments until they are sure that an import licence will be issued.

Inquiries: Import Licensing Branch, tel. 01-603 4644, ext. 271.

No. 1509: Imports of cotton textiles from India – revised arrangements

Note: *The arrangements set out in this Notice supersede the existing quota arrangements for cotton textiles from India.*

The Community has negotiated and initialled an Agreement with India on trade in cotton textiles for each of the calendar years 1975, 1976 and 1977. The Agreement provides for voluntary restraint to keep exports to the Community of certain cotton products intended for domestic consumption at agreed levels. Pending enactment of Community legislation to conclude the Agreement its provisions are being operated *de facto* as set out in the following paragraph. However, should the subsequent legislation result in any change in the provisions outlined here, a further Notice to Importers will be issued.

Scope of the Agreement and quantitative levels to be applied under Community arrangements. The textile items covered by the Agreement and the levels to be adhered to by India in respect of its exports to the United Kingdom are set out in Annex 1 of this Notice. Account will be taken of the amount of goods already exported from India in 1975. Effectively there is no additional licensing requirement since imports of most cotton textiles from India are already subject to licence in the United Kingdom. The Indian Authorities will administer the quotas by issuing 'Green Certificates' to Indian exporters for onward transmission direct to UK importers. These certificates, together with a completed form ILB/A should be sent to Import Licensing Branch, Department of Trade, who will issue UK import licences within the appropriate quota limits.

Existing UK restrictions on cotton textiles from India that are not affected by the Community arrangements. Interim arrangements pending completion of the Community arrangements for imports of cotton textiles from India for the period of 1 January to 30 September 1975 were set out in Notices to Importers Nos. 1474 and 1491. Some cotton textiles whose levels of export to the UK are currently restrained are not, however, covered by the EEC/India Agreement. The existing import arrangements for these goods are unaffected by the EEC arrangements and the licensing requirements remain effective for the time being. A further announcement about future quota levels will be made as soon as possible.

Imports for re-export. Imports of 'restricted' cotton textiles from India will not be set-off against the quotas if they are re-exported *outside the EEC* in the same state or after limited processing. The general import licensing arrangements for 'restricted' textiles re-exported from the UK are set out in Notice to Importers No. 1441.

Handloom and textile handicraft products. Certain cotton handloom fabrics and products thereof originating in India will not be subject to Community quantitative import restriction provided there is satisfactory operation of the following arrangements for certification. Importers should obtain from India a certificate in the form as set out in Annex 2 to this Notice. The bodies authorised to issue such certificates are the Textile Commissioner in Bombay or one of his branch offices in Ahmedabad, Amritsar, Calcutta, Coimbatore, Kanpur and Madras. The certificates should be

Gregor MacKenzie, Minister of State, Department of Industry, welcomed the United States investment mission when the party arrived at Glasgow Airport last week. He is seen (left, foreground), with his wife, who is standing next to the mission leader, Felix Mansager, retiring chairman of Hoover Co. Mrs. Mansager is seen next to Mr. MacKenzie. After a busy programme in Scotland, England and Wales (see *Trade and Industry*, 19 September, page 667), the mission is due to return to the United States tomorrow.

endorsed by an Indian Government agency to the effect that the consignment is approved for export, without any quantitative ceilings, as provided for in the Agreement on trade in textiles concluded between the Community and India and in the Geneva Arrangement regarding International Trade in Textiles. Suitably endorsed certificates should be sent with a completed form ILB/A to Import Licensing Branch, Department of Trade who will issue the necessary import licences.

UK import surveillance. In addition to the textiles covered by this Notice certain other textiles from India (or any other non-EEC country) are subject to UK surveillance arrangements. Descriptions of these goods and the licensing arrangements are set out in Notices to Importers Nos. 1484 and 1502.

Inquiries: Import Licensing Branch, tel. 01-603 4644, ext. 271.

ANNEX 1

Textiles originating in India—UK quota levels under Community arrangements

Quota no.	Tariff heading	Description of goods	1975	1976	1977
1	55.08	Terry towelling of cotton (tonnes)	450	481	515
2	55.09	Other woven fabrics of cotton:	22,825	22,939	23,054
		of which: other than unbleached or bleached (tonnes)	(1,810)	(1,819)	(1,828)
3	ex 61.02	Women's, girls' and infants' outer garments: Women's shirts and blouses of cotton (tonnes)	122	122	140
4	ex 61.03	Men's and boys' under garments, including collars, shirt fronts and cuffs: Men's shirts of cotton (units)	663,960	710,437	760,167
5	ex 61.05	Handkerchiefs Cotton handkerchiefs (doz.)	4,344,933	4,649,078	4,974,512
6	ex 62.02	Bed linen, table linen, toilet linen and kitchen linen, of cotton (tonnes)	4,008	4,008	4,028

ANNEX 2

Certification of handloom and textile handicraft products

The Community and India have agreed that in carrying out the provisions of Article 4 of the Agreement the following form of certificate shall be used:

'Certificate in regard to cotton handloom fabrics and products thereof.

Name and address of manufacturer
Name and address of exporter
Name and address of EEC importer
Description of goods
Quantity (metric tons)
Name of ship or flight number
Port or airport of destination

This is to certify that the above shipment is:

i) cotton handloom fabrics of the cottage industry, containing not more than 5 per cent by weight of man-made fibres, being fabrics which are both traditionally of the kind woven on handlooms and actually woven on a loom for which the motive power is provided entirely by the operators (that is where the three primary movements of weaving, namely shedding, picking and beating, are induced by hand or foot and no other source of power is used):

ii) goods made up by the cottage industry from such cotton handloom fabrics:

iii) traditional Indian folklore handicraft textiles products cut, sewn or otherwise fabricated by hand in cottages which are units of the cottage industry.

Signed.....'

No. 1510: Imports of bananas from the Dollar Area

To offset expected shortfalls in supplies of fresh bananas to the United Kingdom from other sources, a further supplementary quota of 10,000 tons has been established for imports from the Dollar Area.

In order to ensure continuity of imports, the Department's Import Licensing Branch will allocate the supplementary quota among existing licence holders, having regard to the use they have made of their existing allocations under the current quotas for 1974/75. Import licences will be issued to importers against their allocations only for those amounts for which they can produce evidence of a firm contract with the overseas supplier. Licences issued under these arrangements will not be valid after 30 September 1976.

The Dollar Area, as defined in the Open General Import Licence, means Bolivia, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuadar, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Republic of Honduras, Liberia, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, the Philippines, the United States of America and Venezuela.

Inquiries: ILB, tel. 01-603 4644, ext. 281.

Tariff and Trade Notices

Irish Republic

Motor vehicle quotas. The Department of Industry and Commerce, Dublin, has announced that arrangements are being made regarding the import quotas for 1976 for motor vehicles originating in the enlarged European Community. The quota has not yet been determined but applications to participate are invited from authorised import agents. Applications should be submitted by 31 October 1975 to Department of Industry and Commerce, Motor Vehicles Section, Room 212, Kildare Street, Dublin 2.

Denmark

Tax changes on road vehicles. The Danish Government has issued Notification 412 dated 15 August 1975 concerning a reduction of the tax on cars and delivery vans fitted with special equipment to promote road safety, etc.

The regulations of the Notification are effective from 1 October 1975 and the reduction of registration duty will be allowed on vehicles fitted with inertia reel safety belts on front seats, belts on back seats, head-rests on front seats, laminated glass windscreens and heated rear windows. Each item carries its own monetary allowance.

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 7174/408/482.

Italy

Manufacturing tax on olive oil, seed oils and margarine. Law no. 417 of 4 August 1975 published in the Italian *Gazzetta Ufficiale* no. 230 of 29 August 1975 sets out changes in the manufacturing tax and frontier surtax on olive oil, seed oils and margarine.

The manufacturing tax and frontier surtax on certain types of olive oils have been cancelled and new rates have been fixed for the manufacturing tax and corresponding frontier surtaxes on seed oils and margarine.

This law enters into force on 1 October 1975. Copies of the Law, in Italian, are obtainable from OTAR. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 466/467/288.

Spain

Capital Goods – additions, extensions, deletions and modifications. The Spanish *State Gazette*, 22 August 1975, announced the following additions, extensions, deletions and modifications to the Capital Goods list of the Spanish Customs Tariff imported at a concessional rate of 5 per cent import duty subject to the importer making application to the Spanish Ministry of Commerce:

Tariff no.	Description	Valid until
ADDITIONS		
ex 84.17.G	Automatic continuous driers for fast (under 60 minutes) drying of ceramic tiles or slabs placed unstacked on articulated trays on a chain transporter	21.8.78
ex 84.17.G	Hot air drying tunnels for articles of cellulose pulp, with internal transport by means of suspended trays	21.8.77
ex 84.17.I	Double-tube concrete reactors for polymerisation of ethylene at a pressure of more than 2,000kg/cm², whether or not with separators and control systems.	21.8.77
ex 84.17.J.2	Double-tube concentric coolers for ethylene at a pressure of more than 1000kg/cm²	21.8.77
ex 84.19.D	Synchronous automatics for the vacuum-filling and closing of tins containing goods preserved in syrup.	21.2.76
ex 84.22.I ex 84.17.J.2 ex 84.31.B.1 ex 90.28.C.7	Continuous machinery for breaking down wood fibres under pressure, with horizontal steam digestors and double disc crushers, together with feed system and control equipment.	21.8.77
ex 84.22.I	Scoop loaders with moveable arms and continuous conveyor, self-propelled on tracks, for handling loose materials in mine galleries.	21.8.77
ex 84.33.L	Automatic machinery for preparing and packaging replacement pads for notebooks, including sections for unreeling, line-printing, cutting, punching, insertion of covers and base, rounding of edges and packing, with a total weight of more than 15,000kg.	21.8.77
ex 84.35.C.3	Letterpress printing machines with printing surfaces exceeding 43 × 61cm and having two or more numbering cylinders and formes for printing and numbering sheets in a single pass, whether or not with an additional facility for numbering with magnetic ink.	21.8.77
ex 84.45.C.5	Automatic portal-type single head multi-spindle drill weighing more than 30,000kg, with numerical control.	21.8.77
ex 84.45.C.6	Automatic machines specially designed for grinding grooves or splines, with envelope flanks, in grooved axles, having permanent electronic control of grinding wheel profiling and automatic take-up for wear.	21.8.77
ex 84.45.C.6	Unitary or modular machines for polishing or grinding and polishing cutlery or automatic cycle, with oscillating heads or workholders, whether or not with workpiece transfer facility.	21.8.77
ex 84.45.C.6	Hydraulic machines with automatic work cycle, for sharpening or grinding cutlery, whether or not with automatic feed and removal systems.	21.8.77
ex 84.45.C.10	Automatic cutting and punching machines for steel strip, having independent heads for cutting, adjustable for straight or oblique cuts, and for punching, together with provision for unreeling, classification and stacking, and control systems.	21.8.77
ex 84.45.C.11 ex 84.59.K	Complex automatic machines for making metal teeth for zip fasteners, by cutting and stamping from reeled metal strip, and inserting them in a textile strip, whether or not with vacuum cleaning system.	21.8.77
ex 84.45.C.14	Complex automatic machines for producing biconic springs and assembling them to make mattress interiors.	21.8.77
ex 84.45.C.16	Special automatic machines with 15 or more independent heads and rotating table for premachining or machining ball fitting and complete finishing of steel tips for ball-point pen cartridges.	21.8.77
ex.84.56.E	Automatic machines for vertical hot-forming of concrete walls having dimensions greater than 2m × 4m.	21.8.77

Further information

In many cases further information on the notices published on these pages is available to British exporters from the Department of Trade. The main branches concerned are: Commercial Relations and Exporters (CRE) Division, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET (tel: direct dialling); and Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section (OTAR), Export Data Branch, Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel: 01-248 5757). In each case, the relevant information source is indicated at the end of the notice by its initials (OTAR or CRE) and, in the case of OTAR, the telephone extension. In the Tariff and Trade Notices section countries are grouped by continents as far as possible; they are listed alphabetically on the contents page.

Tariff no.	Description	Valid until
ex 84.56.E	Automatic machines for assembly-line vibration moulding of hollow concrete elements having dimensions greater than 1m × 6m for forming roofs, whether or not with conveyor facility and hot-curing chamber.	21.8.77
ex 84.56.E	Automatic horizontal machines for intermittent or continuous forming of sand moulds without moulding boxes, with automatic dispensing of measured quantities of sand and mechanical positioning of male moulds.	21.8.77
ex 84.59.K	Double parallel screw extruders for producing plastic materials, having mixing and compression sections and a cutting head in a water jet.	21.8.77
ex 84.59.K	Automatic machines for producing spiral teeth for zip fasteners from plastic monofoil.	21.8.77
ex 84.59.K	Monobloc electrolytic baths for continuous wire plating with sections for washing, rinsing and drying prior to plating, together with control equipment excluding the electrical transformer system.	21.8.77
ex 84.59.K	Machines with two parallel rotors for continuous mixing and homogenising of synthetic resins.	21.8.76
ex 85.01.A.2B and A.3	Vertical-axis rotary frequency converters with air and water cooling, for currents greater than 300kW.	21.8.77
ex 85.01.C.3	Static thyristor converters for medium frequencies, with a power output of more than 50kW.	21.8.77
ex 85.11.A.2.C ex 84.17.J.2	Automatic continuous muffler furnaces, without a metal housing for annealing steel tubing in an inert atmosphere, whether or not with ammonia separator and gas drier.	21.8.76
ex 85.11.B.1.b	Multiple-head automatic arc welders for making full-webbed girders, excluding electric generators.	21.8.77
ex 85.11.B.2	Automatic machines for adjusting metallic film resistors by means of laser-beam cutting, having digital control and a cathode tube monitor.	21.8.77
ex 85.19.B	High voltage switches with a vacuum chamber of ceramic material.	21.8.77
ex 87.07.A.2	Special trucks for feeding iron and steel-making furnaces, having an inclinable horizontal arm with self-discharging ladle.	21.8.77
ex 90.20.A.2	X-ray equipment of a power exceeding 50kV specially designed for radiological examination during industrial inspection, control and product grading operations.	21.8.77
EXTENSIONS		
ex 84.18.D.1.d	Centrifuges used for obtaining solid substances, fitted with automatic continuous loading and unloading devices or operating by continuous cycles, and of a weight exceeding 1,250kg.	7.7.77
ex 84.40.F	Plate or roller machines for the multicolour stencil printing of check fabrics, with automatic fabric feed.	26.8.77
ex 84.45.C.6	Centreless grinders weighing more than 10,000kg.	7.8.77
ex 84.45.C.6	Automatics designed to grind the outer surfaces of cams and similarly shaped parts by copying from a special template by means of an oscillating work-holder attachment.	26.8.77
ex 84.45.C.10	Sheetbending rollers with table length over 3,000mm and hydraulically-operated upper cylinder of diameter over 900mm whether or not with electrical and hydraulic drive systems.	7.8.77
ex 84.45.C.10	Machines for making steel tubes with longitudinal welded seam, of a diameter exceeding 200mm and a wall thickness exceeding 4mm, with stations for edge cutting, pre-forming, forming edge pressing and dressing.	21.2.77
ex 84.45.C.14	Machines for continuous forming or calibration of longitudinally welded steel tubes, with a diameter exceeding 200mm.	21.2.77
ex 84.45.C.16	Rod descaling machines.	7.8.77
ex 84.59.K	High-vacuum evaporation apparatus for optical treatments with electron gun and optical measuring equipment for thickness control.	7.8.77
ex 87.07.A.2	Self propelled fork lift trucks capable of lifting loads in excess of 20,000kg.	26.8.77
ex 87.07.A.2	Stacking trucks with a lift of more than 7m and capacity in excess of 800kg.	7.8.77
ex 90.28.C.7	Unitary or modular equipment for chemical or clinical analysis, fully automatic in operation from placing of sample to presentation of results in numerical or graph form.	7.8.77
DELETIONS		
ex 84.22.G.4 ex 84.22.I	Special automatic machines for handling rails, providing longitudinal movement by means of drive rollers and lateral transfer by means of parallel lines of chains and pushers.	
ex 84.45.C.16	Automatic machines for cutting and/or multiple drilling of rails, whether or not with provision for measuring and removal of off-cuts.	
REVISED DESCRIPTIONS		
ex 84.16.A	Calendering machines for rolling plastic materials, with four or more rollers the axes of which are not all in the same plane and having a minimum width of 1,500mm and minimum diameter of 550mm.	
ex 84.17.G	Cyclone driers for wood fibres, chips or shavings whether or not with independent burners and suction device.	
ex 84.18.D.1.d	Machines for removing stones and mud from oleaginous vegetable or animal pastes, having a horizontal axis and continuous feed and ejection.	
ex 84.21.A.3	Continuous glueing machines for wood shavings or wood fibres, with constant metering and control of amounts of glue and of shavings or fibres.	
ex 84.59.K ex 85.01.C	Automatic presses with hot plates or high-frequency heating, each plate having an area of more than 9m² with its lesser side exceeding 1,800mm, for the manufacture of chip-board or fibreboard sheets, whether or not with stations for forming, pre-pressing, feed and ejection, a central control system and, where appropriate a higher frequency generator.	
MODIFICATION		
ex 84.45.C.16	Automatic machines with 20 or more independent heads for machining motor-compressor blocks by removal of material with linear transfer of the workpiece by means of a reciprocating device without holding the workpiece.	

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 462/471/472/473.

Malta

Import licensing control. The Malta *Government Gazette*, 9 September 1975, announced that, with immediate effect, the importation of plastic sheeting and tubing has been placed under import licensing control. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 471/472/473/462.

Yugoslavia

Standards for the marking of crates. The Yugoslav *Official Gazette* of 18 July 1975 announces that the following Yugoslav standards will become obligatory as from 1 October 1975.

Markings about the handling, protection storage and use of products	JUS DFO 010
Markings about the handling, storage, transport and use of dangerous products	JUS DFO 011
Wording on the crates which refer to handling, transportation, storage and protection	JUS DFO 021

Copies of these standards will be available in due course for consultation at the library of the British Standards Institution, 2 Park Street, London W1A 2BS.

Inquiries: CRE tel. 01-215 5338.

Israel

Price control. The Israeli authorities have issued an order fixing the price of:

Portland cement;
Bottled beverages.

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 458/461.

Import duties. The Israeli authorities have issued amendments to the import duties of the following goods:

BN No.	BN No.	BN No.	BN No.	BN No.	BN No.
29.35	51.03	58.10	73.11	84.63	87.08
30.01	51.04	59.02	76.02	85.08	87.12
30.03	52.02	59.03	76.03	85.09	90.01
38.11	53.11	59.08	76.15	85.15	90.13
39.01	53.12	59.11	82.03	85.21	90.24
39.02	53.13	59.12	84.06	85.22	90.25
39.03	54.05	59.13	84.10	85.24	90.27
39.07	55.07	60.01	84.15	87.01	90.28
40.11	55.08	60.04	84.17	87.02	97.04
48.07	55.09	60.06	84.18	87.03	
48.13	56.07	68.14	84.22	87.04	
50.09	58.04	70.08	84.55	87.05	
50.10	58.05	70.09	84.59	87.06	
51.01	58.09	70.14	84.61	87.07	

Inquiries (stating the BN number and the description of the goods): OTAR ext. 458/461.

Algeria

Ports. The Algerian *Official Journal* of the 24 June has reported the reorganisation of the handling of goods through Algerian ports in an attempt to improve their efficiency. The following are the main points:

a The ports shall work on a 24-hour basis. Actual loading and unloading of ships should take place without stopping between 7 a.m. to 1 a.m. and may continue even later.

b The handling of goods and their despatch from the port shall be on a 24-hour basis.

c Foreign companies importing goods for the account of a state organisation are obliged to use an Algerian state organisation for the transit operation and procedures.

d Goods may be taken out of the port by state organisations before payment of customs duties and other taxes. A delay of 45 days is permitted for payments of such duties, etc.

Inquiries: CRE tel. 01-215 5358.

Somali Democratic Republic

Take-over of trade representation. Further information concerning the take-over of the administration of all trade representation (*Trade and Industry*, 29 August 1975) has now been received. The legislation in effect only withdraws licences from companies trading solely on a commission basis. Agents importing on own account, government agencies, retailers, etc. may still import directly from overseas, maintaining normal communications with suppliers. Exports from Somalia are not affected. A new government office will hold details and catalogues of overseas manufacturers and offer advice to government agencies and others who are seeking suppliers. Their address is; Director, State Commercial Agency Department, Chamber of Commerce, PO Box 1749, Mogadishu. Telegraphic address: SAHAN. Inquiries: CRE tel. 01-215 5226.

South Africa

Tariff application. Customs Tariff Application List 685, published in the South African *Government Gazette* 19 September 1975 contains an application to the Board of Trade and Industries for increase in duty on glazed ceramic wall tiles (excluding mosaics) classifiable under tariff subheading 69.08.40.

British trade organisations thought to be interested in the application are being informed. Any British firm affected which wishes to make representations to the South African Board of Trade and Industries and belongs to a trade organisation should, therefore, first contact its own trade association.

If any firm proposes to make independent representations to the South African authorities and requires further information concerning the application, it should address inquiries to CRE tel. 01-215 5274.

Thailand

Chemical products licences. The Thai Minister of Commerce announced on 4 July that the following chemical products under the category of vinyl chloride monomer may no longer be imported without a licence.

1 Vinyl chloride monomer of the type present in the gas or liquid under pressure.
2 Vinyl chloride monomer in mixture or combination with other products contained in receptacles in the form of aerosols or air sprays especially for use as insecticides, hair sprays and air refresheners.

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 401/468/469.

Australia

Automotive components: temporary protection. The Department of Manufacturing Industry in Australia has received a request for temporary protection against imports of the following automotive components other than original equipment:

Plain shaft bearings; pin fitted pistons; piston assemblies complete with piston rings and pins; piston ring sets; piston rings; cylinder sleeves; cylinder sleeve assemblies complete with pin fitted piston; piston rings and cylinder sleeves; clutch plates; clutch cover assemblies; and clutch diaphram springs falling within items 84.63.200, 84.63.400 and 87.06.900.

Requests for temporary protection are received initially by the Department of Manufacturing Industry and, after examination, are submitted to the Special Minister of State for consideration. The Special Minister of State may refer the request to a Temporary Assistance Authority for inquiry and report. Any temporary protection which may be accorded on the recommendation of the Temporary Assistance Authority is in the nature of a holding action pending Government consideration of the general question of protection for the local industry following inquiry and report by the Industries Assistance Commission.

Evidence must be formerly submitted at a public hearing, either by a nominated representative of the firm or trade association concerned, or through the Australian British Trade Association, 21 Tothill Street, London SW1 (tel. 01-799 7447), who will represent UK interests if authorised. The association charges a fee for its services, the amount varying according to the work entailed in the preparation of a submission and whether or not the interested party is a member.

UK firms or trade associations intending to submit evidence should advise the Secretary, Industries Assistance Commission, PO Box 80, Canberra, ACT 2600, Australia, without delay through their accredited agent, indicating the goods with which they are concerned, and the request they anticipate submitting. Ref. CRE 1877/75. Inquiries: CRE tel. 01-215 5318.

Mattresses, quilts, eiderdowns and cushions: Industries Assistance Commission recommendation. The Australian Government has accepted the recommendations of the Industries Assistance Commission resulting from their inquiries into the question whether assistance should be accorded the production in Australia of mattresses, quilts, eiderdowns and cushions.

Mattresses and mattress supports will attract minimum rates of duty. The general rate on the remainder of the goods will be 35 per cent, progressively reduced over two years to 15 per cent. Fuller details will be published as soon as they are available.

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 468/469/401.

Chairs (banana loungers): temporary protection. The Department of Manufacturing Industry in Australia has received a request for temporary protection against imports of banana loungers – tariff item 94.01.900. UK firms or trade associations intending to submit evidence should advise, through their agent, the Secretary, Industries Assistance Commission, PO Box 80, Canberra, ACT 2600, Australia, by 29 September. Ref. CRE 1879/75. Inquiries: CRE tel. 01-215 5318.

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New Zealand

Tariff and Development Board reports. Copies of the following New Zealand Tariff and Development Board reports are available from Commercial Relations and Exports Division:

Metalwork Machinery (tariff items 84.45.001, 84.45.009, 84.45.021, 84.45.022, 84.45.023, 84.45.024, 84.45.025, 84.45.029).
Agricultural Chemicals, Fungicides etc., Chemicals used in manufacture of agricultural chemicals (Tariff items 29.16.031, 38.11.012, 38.11.018, 38.11.024, 38.11.026, 38.11.032, 38.11.038, 38.11.048, 38.11.098, 38.19.235).
Agricultural Chemicals in Aerosol Packs (Tariff items 38.11.012, 38.11.018, 38.11.024, 38.11.026, 38.11.028, 38.11.032, 38.11.038, 38.11.048, 38.11.098).

Inquiries: CRE tel. 01-215 5321.

Organic chemicals, miscellaneous chemical products, boilers, machinery and mechanical appliances – parts thereof: Tariff amendments. The New Zealand Government has issued Customs Tariff (Agricultural Chemicals) and (Metalworking Machinery) Amendment Orders 1975 which came into force on 5 September 1975 amending the following tariff items:

29.16.099 38.11.011 38.11.019 38.11.021 38.11.022 38.11.023 38.11.029 38.11.031 38.11.033 38.11.039 38.11.041 38.11.042 38.11.049 38.11.099 38.19.231 38.19.232 38.19.239 84.45.001 84.45.009 84.45.021 84.45.022 84.45.023 84.45.024 84.45.025 84.45.029

which now read as follows:

No.	Description	Unit	Rates of duty effective on and after 1 July: Year	Normal tariff	British preferential	Other preferential rates of duty
CHAPTER 29						
Organic chemicals						
VII – Carboxylic acids, and their anhydrides, halides, peroxides and peracids, and their halogenated, sulphonated, nitrated or nitrosated derivatives						
29.16	Carboxylic acids with alcohol, phenol, aldehyde or ketone function and other single or complex oxygen-function carboxylic acids and their anhydrides, halides, peroxides, and peracids, and their halogenated, sulphonated, nitrated or nitrosated derivatives:					
29.16.031	2-methyl-4-chlorophenoxybutyric acid, 2,4-dichlorophenoxybutyric acid; salts and esters of the foregoing	kg	1975	35%	35%	Aul 25% Can 25% CPC 25%
29.16.098	Other kinds	..	1975	20%	8%	Aul Free
			1976	20%	12%	Can Free
			1977	20%	20%	CPC Free
CHAPTER 38						
Miscellaneous chemical products						
38.11	Disinfectants, insecticides, fungicides, weed-killers, anti-sprouting products, rat poisons and similar products, put up in forms or packings for sale by retail or as preparations or as articles (for example, sulphur-treated bands, wicks and candles, flypapers):					
	Insecticides and fungicides:					
38.11.012	Timber preserving preparations	..	1975	41%	29%	Aul 25%
			1976	39%	31%	Can 25%
			1977	35%	35%	CPC 25%
	Other:					
38.11.018	Containing organophosphorus compounds	..	1975	35%	35%	Aul 25% Can 25% CPC 25%
38.11.024	Methyl bromide with the addition of chloropicrin or other warning agents	..	1975	41%	29%	Aul 25%
			1976	39%	31%	Can 25%
			1977	35%	35%	CPC 25%
	Other kinds:					
38.11.026	In pressure (aerosol) containers	..	1975	10%*	10%*	Aul Free* Can Free* CPC Free*
38.11.028	Other	..	1975	20%	20%	Aul 10% Can 10% CPC 10%
	Weedkillers:					
38.11.032	Containing carboxylic acids with phenol function (or their halogenated, sulphonated, nitrated or nitrosated derivates) and salts and esters of these acids	..	1975	35%	35%	Aul 25% Can 25% CPC 25%
38.11.038	Containing triazine compounds	..	1975	35%	35%	Aul 25% Can 25% CPC 25%
38.11.048	Other	..	1975	20%	20%	Aul 10% Can 10% CPC 10%
38.11.098	Other kinds	..	1975	20%	20%	Aul 10% Can 10% CPC 10%
38.19	Chemical products and preparations of the chemical or allied industries (including those consisting of mixtures of natural products), not elsewhere specified or included; residual products of the chemical or allied industries, not elsewhere specified or included:					
38.19.235	Growth promoting and growth regulation preparations for agricultural use	..	1975	20%	20%	Aul 10% Can 10% CPC 10%
CHAPTER 84						
Boilers, machinery and mechanical appliances; parts thereof						
84.45	Machine-tools for working metal or metal carbides, not being machines falling within heading No. 84.49 or 84.50:					
	Band saws:					
84.45.001	As may be determined by the Minister	kg	1975	45%*	45%*	Aul 5%* Can 25%* CPC25%*
84.45.009	Other	kg	1975	5%	5%	Aul Free Can Free CPC Free
	Other kinds:					
84.45.021	As may be determined by the Minister	kg	1975	45%*	45%*	Aul 25%* Can 25%* CPC 25%*
	Other:					
84.45.022	Lathes	kg	1975	5%	5%	Aul Free Can Free CPC Free
84.45.023	Drilling machines	kg	1975	5%	5%	Aul Free Can Free CPC Free
84.45.024	Milling machines	kg	1975	5%	5%	Aul Free Can Free CPC Free
84.45.025	Grinding machines	kg	1975	5%	5%	Aul Free Can Free CPC Free
84.45.029	Other kinds	kg	1975	5%	5%	Aul Free Can Free CPC Free

* Plus a duty equal to the amount by which the cif value is less than 0.1325 cents per millilitre of the total contents.

* Or such lower rate of duty as the Minister may in any case direct.

Aul = Australia
Can = Canada
CPC = Commonwealth Preference Countries

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 401/468/469.

CRE Commercial Relations and Exports Divisions
Department of Trade
1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET
Tel. Direct dialling (see end of each notice)

OTAR Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section
Export Data Branch
Export Services and Promotions Division
Department of Trade
Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU
Tel. 01-248 5757 (extension at end of each notice)

Canada

Proposed amendment of the gelatin standard in the Food and Drug Regulations. The Health Protection Branch is giving consideration to amending the standard for gelatin to be found in section B 14.062 of the Food and Drug Regulations. The amendment will provide for the use of certain processing chemicals or materials in the manufacture of gelatin. In addition, changes are proposed with respect to the microbiological specifications.

Comments on this proposal should be submitted by 7 November to: Assistant Director General, Food Directorate, Health Protection Branch, Department of National Health and Welfare, Ottawa, Ontario K1A OL2.

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 455/456/457.

Outerwear imports: Textile and Clothing Board inquiry. The Canadian Textile and Clothing Board is to undertake an investigation into imports of certain types of outerwear. Products to be covered by the inquiry include snow suits, ski suits and pants, jackets and parkas. The closing date for submission of briefs to the board is 20 October 1975. Details are available. Inquiries: CRE tel. 01-215 5397.

United States

Product hazard notification. The US Consumer Product Safety Commission has announced that implementation of the new procedures for product hazard notification has been postponed from 25 August until 25 October. Details are available from CRE 01-215 5397.

Mexico

Wide-ranging duty increases. A presidential decree, published in the Mexican *Diario Oficial*, 28 August 1975, increased the import duty on a vast range of goods throughout the whole tariff. Many of the increases are substantial and in some cases the duties have been doubled. Exporters wishing to find out if their goods are affected may make inquiries by telephone if the information is urgently needed. Written inquiries will be dealt with in rotation but there may be delays in replying. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 476/474.

Barbados

Import licensing. The Barbados Authorities by SI 174 of 25 August 1975 state that an import licence is required for the following items:

ex 25.01	Refined salt (excluding sodium chloride analar)
ex Chapter 28	Sulphuric acid (excluding Sulphuric acid for scientific experimentation and laboratory use)
44.27	Necklaces of wooden beads
49.08	Paper and plastic transfers (Decalcomanias)
ex 59.03	Textile curtains, of bonded fibre fabrics or bonded yarn fabrics)
ex 60.05	Textile curtains, knitted or crocheted
ex 62.02	Other textile curtains
ex 62.03	Jute sacks
ex 83.15	Welding electrodes
95.05.1	Necklaces of shell

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 7312/456/457.

Colombia

Additions to Previous Import Licence List. Resolution 036 of August 1975 removes the following goods from Colombia's Free Import Licence List and places them on the Previous Import Licence List:

28.10.01.00	28.10.02.00	28.10.89.00	28.38.01.02	28.39.02.01	28.39.02.11
28.39.02.99	28.40.03.01	28.46.01.01	28.46.01.99	28.48.02.00	31.01.00.00
31.02.01.00	31.02.03.00	31.02.05.00	31.02.07.00	31.04.01.00	31.04.02.00
31.04.03.00	31.04.04.00	31.04.05.00	31.05.02.00	31.05.89.01	

British exporters with inquiries should specify the product with which they are concerned. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 474/476.

Ecuador

Prohibitions. Decree No. 786 of the Ecuadorean Monetary Board prohibits the importation of a number of goods which had been included previously in List II. The affected products are listed below:

01.01.01.05	01.01.01.99	01.01.02.99	01.04.01.99	01.06.89.03	03.01.89.01
07.01.89.01	08.01.02.02	08.04.02.01	09.03.00.00	09.04.02.00	17.02.15.00
17.02.16.00	19.02.00.05	19.02.00.21	19.02.00.99	19.05.00.00	19.06.00 00
21 01 00 00	21 05 01 99	21 07 03 00	24 02 02 01	24 02 02 02	34 01 01 99
34 01 02 00	34 05 01 00	36 08 00 99	42 02 02 00	42 02 03 00	42 03 89 01
42 03 89 99	42 05 00 00	44.28.00.03	44.28.00.04	48.15.06.00	48.21.00.07
48.21.00.08	57.04.11.00	57.08.00.00	61.05.00.00	61.06.00.00	61.07.00.00
62.01.89.00	67.02.00.00	67.08.00.00	68.09.00.00	69.11.02.00	69.12.02.00
69.13.01.00	69.13.02.00	71.12.00.00	71.13.01.00	71.13.89.00	71.14.89.00
71.15.00.00	71.16.00.00	73.21.01.01	87.13.01.01	87.14.02.01	94.04.00.00
95.01.00.00	95.02.00.00	95.03.00.00	95.05.00.00	95.06.00.00	95.07.00.00
96.02.02.00	96.02.89.01	96.02.89.99	96.05.00.00	97.02.01.00	97.05.01.00
97.05.89.00	98.14.00.00	98.16.00.00			

Inquiries, specifying the products: OTAR ext. 474/476.

Uruguay

Prior deposits. On 6 August 1975 the Central Bank issued Circular 655 which states that one more category of Capital Goods will be exempt from the 35 per cent Prior Deposit requirement when: 'they are used by the slaughtering and packing industry qualified to import'. (For details of the other exemptions see *Trade and Industry*, page 415 of 15 August 1975.)

Following this, on 9 August 1975, the Central Bank issued Circular 656 which states that all imports of Capital Goods are now exempted from the 35 per cent Prior Deposit requirement. It defines Capital Goods as those listed by Decree 410/75 and 'Industrial Plants'.

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 474/476.

Falkland Islands

Preferential Tariff abolished. *Gazette* No. 8 publishes an amendment to the Customs Ordinance which came into operation on 1 July 1975. Section 9 has been repealed and the Preferential Tariff is thereby revoked. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 474/476.

Registered trade marks

The lists of tariff, customs and import regulation changes in overseas countries published in this section of *Trade and Industry* sometimes contain words which are registered trade marks in the United Kingdom. So far as is practicable, all lists of goods are checked before publication from this point of view. Items which fall into this category are preceded by the letters rtm. Readers should note that this prefix signifies that the words are registered as trade marks in the United Kingdom but that in the present context are assumed to refer generally to products of the descriptions stated in brackets. While every attempt will be made to ensure that the scrutiny is complete, the lists may contain other words which are registered as trade marks in the United Kingdom or in other countries but which it has not been possible to identify.

Statistics

The economy: selected indicators

Series expressed as index numbers and seasonally adjusted except where shown otherwise

	Gross domestic product (average estimate)	Consumers' expenditure	Fixed capital expenditure			Changes in stocks				Balance of payments		
			Total	of which: Manufacturing industry	of which: Distributive and service industries	Total	of which: Manufacturing industry	of which: Wholesalers	of which: Retailers	Current balance	Visible balance	Invisible balance
	at 1970 prices		at 1970 prices			at 1970 prices				at current prices		
Base of index	1970	1970	1970	1970	1970							
£m in base year		31,365	9,223	2,029	2,090	series in £ million				series in £ million		
1970	100	100	100	100	100	439	325	68	−30	735	−12	747
1971	101	103	100	98	104	76	−148	52	−10	1,048	282	766
1972	104	109	106	86	117	−54	−175	48	−11	128	−690	818
1973	110	114	110	92	125	706	396	102	334	−835	−2,295	1,460
1974	110	114	108	103	113	288	666	81	−68	−3,668	−5,234	1,566
1972 2nd qtr.	104	108	106	85	118	−31	−81	1	33	138	−64	202
3rd qtr.	104	110	106	83	115	−7	−35	6	−16	−89	−280	191
4th qtr.	107	111	108	84	124	18	13	24	−10	−11	−213	202
1973 1st qtr.	110	115	112	90	130	279	166	37	51	−150	−354	204
2nd qtr.	109	112	107	87	118	191	88	3	185	−78	−403	325
3rd qtr.	110	114	111	96	120	102	46	29	47	−198	−564	366
4th qtr.	110	114	111	94	132	134	96	32	51	−409	−974	565
1974 1st qtr.	106	113	112	102	112	−249	−31	18	−59	−849	−1,275	426
2nd qtr.	110	112	105	101	110	193	191	43	27	−918	−1,307	389
3rd qtr.	112	114	106	102	119	240	368	3	−14	−830	−1,206	376
4th qtr.	110	116	107	106	113	104	139	17	−22	−1,071	−1,446	375
1975 1st qtr.	111	116	108	98	102	−79	21	−31	−57	−316	−722	406
2nd qtr.		114		91	99		−126	−72	−52	−235	−525	290
% change last 2 qtrs. on prev. 2 qtrs.	+0.2	N/C	+1.9	−9.1	−13.4							
on a year earlier	+2.8	+2.2	−3.6	−6.9	−9.5							

	Index of industrial production		Personal expenditure		Prices and costs					Labour			Trade§	
	Total all industries	Total manufacturing industries	Retail sales	Cars: new registrations	Index of retail prices: Index‡	Index of retail prices: % increase on a year earlier	Index of wholesale prices: all manufacturing industry: basic materials and fuel used‡	Index of wholesale prices: all manufacturing industry: manufactured products: home sales‡	Basic hourly wage rates of manual workers (all industries and services)‡	Unemployed excluding school leavers and adult students: mid-month count	Unemployed excluding school leavers and adult students: % of total employees	Unfilled vacancies for adults: mid-month count	Exports	Imports
Base of index	1970	1970	1971		Jan. 1974		1970	1970	31 July 1972				Series in	
£m in base year			15,895	thousands						thousands		thousands	£ million	
1971	100.5	99.7	100.0	108.5	153.4†	9.4	104.6	109.0	88.9	737	3.2	129	8,810	8,528
1972	102.6	102.3	105.8	138.6	164.3†	7.1	109.2	114.8	101.4	816	3.6	145	9,140	9,830
1973	110.2	110.9	110.7	137.3	179.4†	9.2	144.5	123.2*	115.6	581	2.6	304	11,771	14,066
1974	106.4	108.0	109.9	102.7	108.5	16.0	215.3	152.0	138.7	572+	2.5+	298+	15,886	21,120
1974 1st qtr.	104.0	106.3	109.8	103	101.4	12.9	212.5	138.3	125.0	546	2.4	286	3,563	4,838
2nd qtr.	107.9	109.6	107.3	104	107.5	15.8	213.7	148.9	132.3	552	2.4	311	3,977	5,284
3rd qtr.	108.4	109.9	111.0	109	110.2	17.0	212.9	156.1	144.0	592	2.6	306	4,239	5,445
4th qtr.	105.3	106.1	111.6	96	115.1	18.2	222.1	164.9	153.5	..	..	..	4,106	5,553
1975 1st qtr.	104.4	105.7	111.5	106	122.0	20.3	220.9	176.0	163.6	701	3.1	..	4,637	5,359
2nd qtr.	100.1	100.2	108.7	91	133.6	24.3	225.6	186.3	176.2	814	3.6	166	4,479	5,004
3rd qtr.										967	4.2	133		
1974 Sept.	107.3	108.5	112.2	118	111.0	17.1	212.8	158.6	146.4	603	2.7	301	1,465	1,838
Oct.	106.2	106.6	111.4	102	113.2	17.1	220.1	162.2	148.7	607	2.7	294	1,371	1,859
Nov.	105.8	106.9	112.8	98	115.2	18.3	223.8	164.8	153.9	613	2.7	273	1,327	1,929
Dec.	103.8	104.9	110.8	87	116.9	19.1	222.5	167.6	158.0	..	..	..	1,408	1,765
1975 Jan.	105.1	107.2	113.0	109	119.9	19.9	222.1	173.0	159.7	678 e	3.0	..	1,589	1,876
Feb.	105.0	106.6	112.3	113	121.9	19.9	218.8	175.9	162.0	705	3.1	192	1,480	1,796
Mar.	103.2	103.3	109.4	97	124.3	21.2	221.9	179.2	169.0	722	3.2	186	1,568	1,687
Apr.	101.5	101.7	120.2	89	129.1	21.7	222.9	182.5	170.1	760	3.3	173	1,393	1,690
May	99.5	99.5	102.5	90	134.5	25.0	226.2	187.3	176.4	817	3.6	156	1,616	1,664
June	99.5	99.6	104.5	95	137.1	26.1	227.7	189.0	182.2	864	3.8	141	1,470	1,650
July	100.0	100.3	104.7	89	138.5	26.3	232.8 p	191.7 p	184.1	938	4.1	129	1,579	1,872
Aug.			105 p	92	139.3	26.9	241.0 p	193.7 p		967	4.2	134	1,494 p	1,864 p
Sept.										997	4.4	135		
% change latest 3 months on prev. 3 months	−3.5	−3.9	−5.3	+0.1	+7.0		+4.5	+4.6	+8.3	+18.9		−15.4	−1	+7
on a year earlier	−8.1	−9.2	−4.4	−13.4	+26.4		+10.0	+24.7	+32.7	+63.3		−56.7	+10	—

(‡) Not seasonally adjusted. (§) On a balance of payments basis. * After April 1973, affected by changes due to VAT. † Base of index Jan. 1962 = 100.
+ Average of 11 months. e Figure is estimate. †† Latest 5 months on previous 5 months and on 5 months on year earlier.

Activity in the chemicals industry

Symbols used in all statistical tables

.. not available	r revised
— nil or less than half	* five week period
the final digit shown	• fifty-three week
p provisional	period

Sales and output

There was a further sharp decline in the volume of sales of chemicals in the first quarter of 1975, especially sales of organic chemicals and synthetic resins and plastics materials. Despite the sluggishness in consumers' expenditure in the first quarter of 1975, sales of pharmaceuticals and toilet preparations were relatively buoyant but these products did not show the very substantial rise in sales through much of last year enjoyed by petrochemical-based products. Destocking by customer industries contributed to the severity of the decline in the sales of chemicals, but this effect has varied from sector to sector and it is thought that the biggest destocking effect has been on sales of basic inorganics.

Estimates of output show that the decline in activity continued into the second quarter of 1975. In the first half of the year the index of production for chemicals and allied industries was 10 per cent below the corresponding period in 1974; this was a much sharper fall than for manufacturing industry as a whole, although during the three-day working period chemicals output was less affected than the rest of manufacturing industry.

The outlook for chemicals recently published by NIESR shows a 10 per cent fall in output in 1975 which implies some recovery in the second half of the year from the low second quarter level of output. However, the general sluggishness in the recovery of world economic activity suggests that a rapid increase in activity is unlikely; such upturn as may occur may not reflect much more than the end to destocking by customer industries.

Trade

In the second quarter of 1975 the value of exports of chemicals recovered part of the sharp fall shown in the first quarter: but the value of imports fell even further, largely because of the decline in organics imports. There has been a substantial fall in the volume of both exports and imports in the first half of this year and there is as yet no sign of any recovery in trade.

Prices

There was perhaps the first sign of an easing in the rate of increase in home market prices in the second quarter of 1975 when the index rose by 5 per cent as against 6 per cent in each of the previous two quarters. Thus the substantial slowdown in the rate of increase of prices of materials and fuels purchased, which started at about the turn of the year, seems to be starting to work through into output prices. However, it could be that price rises are being held back because of the depressed state of the market and further downward pressure may be exerted in the second half of this year by the falling European prices. On the other hand, reports in the technical press have indicated that one or two major companies have been in favour of higher prices in order that there should be adequate finance for future investment and it is notable that the import unit value index for chemicals actually fell by 2 per cent in the second quarter of 1975, while the export unit value index rose by 4 per cent.

Employment

The number of employees in the chemical industries in Great Britain seems to have risen during 1974, in contrast to employment in manufacturing as a whole. However, the business cycle for chemicals was in 1974 out of phase with the rest of manufacturing and it seems probable that the sharp downturn in chemicals activity may lead to a reduction in employment in 1975.

Capital expenditure

The volume of investment increased very substantially by 16 per cent in the first half of 1975 compared with the second half of 1974; this continued the recovery began in early 1974 after three years of decline in investment. There was, however, no further increase in the quarterly level of investment in the second quarter of 1975. Recent reports indicate that some investment plans are being postponed or cut back, which seems to suggest that the level of investment may have flattened off or may even be starting to fall.

TABLE 1 Sales of principal products and output

Index numbers 1970 = 100

Products of	1968 MLH	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1974 (a) 1st qtr.	1974 (a) 2nd qtr.	1974 (a) 3rd qtr.	1974 (a) 4th qtr.	1975 (a) 1st qtr. (b)	1975 (a) 2nd qtr.	% change on a year earlier 1975 1st qtr.	% change on a year earlier 1974	Average annual rate of increase 1968/74
General chemicals	271	79	83	90	97	100	104	110	134	152	149	154	160	145	134	..	−10.1	13.4	9.1
Inorganic chemicals	271/1	95	97	101	101	100	99	99	110	121	121	123	122	117	113	..	−6.6	10.0	3.1
Organic chemicals	271/2	69	73	81	94	100	107	121	155	181	178	184	190	170	143	..	−19.7	16.8	14.4
Other chemicals	271/3	78	84	92	97	100	106	108	137	155	149	156	167	148	148	..	−0.7	13.1	9.1
Pharmaceutical chemicals and preparations	272	67	70	77	89	100	101	106	125	134	136	132	135	133	135	..	−0.7	7.2	9.7
Toilet preparations	273	95	98	98	97	100	106	113	131	146	145	135	153	150	154	..	6.2	11.4	6.9
Paint	274	85	89	93	95	100	108	116	132	133	139	131	134	127	126	..	−9.4	0.8	6.1
Soap and detergents	275	97	96	98	101	100	100	109	112	121	123	114	121	124	114	..	−7.3	8.0	3.6
Synthetic resins and plastics materials	276/1	71	77	89	102	100	101	111	141	143	146	151	153	120	109	..	−25.3	1.4	8.2
Synthetic rubber	276/2	64	68	77	93	100	91	100	130	120	123	123	105	128	93	..	−24.4	−7.7	7.7
Dyestuffs and pigments	277	80	80	88	93	100	97	107	111	116	107	114	124	118	100	..	−6.5	4.5	4.7
Fertilisers	278	93	101	102	95	100	106	87	96	100	103	111	100	84	93	..	−9.7	4.1	−0.3
Other chemical industries	279	92	98	97	97	100	103	109	119	120	124	113	119	125	118	..	−4.8	0.8	3.6
Index of production																			
Chemical and allied industries	Order V	78.8	83.4	89.9	95.0	100.0	102.2	108.1	121.6	128.0	126.0	128.5	132.1	125.3	117.8	111.3	−6.5	5.3	6.1
Total all manufacturing industry		89.2	89.8	95.7	99.4	100.0	99.7	102.3	110.9	108.0	106.3	109.6	109.9	106.1	105.7	100.2	−0.6	−2.6	2.0

(a) Seasonally adjusted. (b) Provisional.

TABLE 2 Imports of the chemical industry: current prices

£ million

	Inorganic chemicals	Organic chemicals	Other chemicals	Pharm. chems. and preps.	Toilet prepara-tions	Paint	Soap and deter-gents	Synthetic resins	Synthetic rubber	Dyestuffs and pigments	Ferti-lisers	Products of other chemical industries	Total
	271/1	271/2	271/3	272	273	274	275	276/1	276/2	277	278	279	
1966	33.1	85.4	43.2	16.4	3.2	2.7	5.0	58.4	11.1	15.7	17.9	19.6	311.7
1967	38.0	95.4	44.2	17.5	3.3	3.4	5.7	64.2	13.0	17.9	26.3	16.0	350.9
1968	46.8	118.1	59.1	21.8	4.4	4.5	7.5	81.3	14.6	24.8	29.2	26.7	438.8
1969	56.9	136.4	66.6	29.1	4.6	4.8	6.7	91.4	16.8	25.0	24.2	29.5	492.0
1970	70.5	160.7	71.7	38.4	5.1	5.5	5.8	109.0	18.8	26.7	23.1	36.5	571.8
1971	68.3	147.3	82.5	42.2	6.2	5.9	9.4	116.5	20.5	35.7	25.9	42.3	602.6
1972	74.6	160.6	102.7	49.1	9.0	5.5	12.6	140.1	20.7	39.2	32.9	48.6	695.6
1973	96.7	236.9	125.9	74.3	15.1	7.7	14.2	199 3	27.0	54.5	35.2	65.5	952.2
1974	155.6	506.3	202.9	106.5	21.2	11.7	25.1	352.7	39.1	71.5	57.4	103.2	1,653.2
1969 1st quarter	13.0	30.7	17.7	6.3	0.8	1.0	1.6	20.3	3.9	6.5	8.0	7.4	117.2
2nd quarter	15.2	34.6	16.8	7.1	1.2	1.3	1.7	24.9	4.6	6.8	5.7	7.5	127.4
3rd quarter	14.3	35.0	15.4	7.7	1.4	1.3	1.7	23.4	4.1	5.7	6.1	7.6	123.7
4th quarter	14.4	36.0	16.7	8.0	1.1	1.3	1.6	22.8	4.2	6.0	4.4	7.0	123.5
1970 1st quarter	17.3	37.6	16.9	9.6	0.0	1.3	1.3	25.1	4.5	5.7	7.3	9.6	137.0
2nd quarter	17.3	40.5	19.4	8.8	1.4	1.5	1.6	28.1	5.2	8.7	4.4	9.2	144.3
3rd quarter	16.7	40.4	17.0	9.1	1.6	1.6	1.4	27.3	4.0	7.5	4.9	9.1	140.6
4th quarter	19.2	42.2	18.5	10.9	1.2	1.1	1.5	28.4	5.0	6.8	6.5	8.6	149.8
1971 1st quarter	18.0	40.2	20.2	10.3	1.3	1.3	1.9	28.3	4.6	9.2	8.9	11.7	155.7
2nd quarter	18.6	36.4	21.8	10.8	1.8	1.4	2.6	29.7	5.3	9.5	5.1	11.0	154.1
3rd quarter	13.9	35.3	21.7	9.9	1.8	1.6	2.5	30.7	5.6	8.3	6.0	10.5	147.7
4th quarter	17.8	35.4	18.9	11.2	1.3	1.6	2.4	27.8	5.0	8.7	6.0	9.0	145.1
1972 1st quarter	18.3	38.8	28.3	11.2	1.7	1.3	4.2	33.9	4.9	9.8	9.8	12.4	174.6
2nd quarter	19.4	37.3	28.1	11.2	2.0	1.4	2.6	34.8	5.3	9.8	10.5	12.6	174.9
3rd quarter	16.5	37.2	22.4	12.5	2.3	1.2	2.6	33.8	4.8	9.5	4.8	11.0	158.7
4th quarter	20.3	47.2	23.9	14.2	3.0	1.5	3.3	37.7	5.7	10.1	7.8	12.7	187.4
1973 1st quarter	24.4	47.6	28.6	15.6	2.5	1.8	3.2	43.6	6.0	12.6	12.1	16.2	214.1
2nd quarter	23.0	54.3	26.8	17.3	3.9	1.8	3.6	46.0	7.1	13.3	7.6	15.8	220.5
3rd quarter	23.7	62.8	32.7	21.1	4.4	2.0	3.6	51.6	6.7	14.8	7.5	16.7	247.5
4th quarter	25.6	72.2	37.8	20.4	4.3	2.1	3.8	58.2	7.2	13.7	8.0	16.8	270.0
1974 1st quarter	32.7	104.1	42.1	24.4	4.8	2.6	4.6	78.8	8.3	18.7	12.3	22.9	358.3
2nd quarter	35.6	139.8	47.2	27.4	5.7	2.9	6.8	90.0	9.9	19.1	13.0	25.8	421.2
3rd quarter	41.2	140.3	60.7	28.7	5.7	3.4	7.4	105.5	10.5	18.5	15.7	26.7	464.1
4th quarter	46.1	122.2	52.9	26.1	4.9	2.9	6.3	78.3	10.4	15.3	16.3	27.8	409.6
1975 1st quarter	42.7	116.3	55.7	26.1	5.9	2.3	5.5	56.9	11.0	11.5	17.5	28.9	380.3
2nd quarter	42.8	92.3	52.7	25.0	6.5	2.3	4.4	59.7	9.3	12.8	13.7	29.9	343.4

TABLE 3 Exports of the chemical industry: current prices

£ million

	Inorganic chemicals	Organic chemicals	Other chemicals	Pharm. chems. and preps.	Toilet prepara-tions	Paint	Soap and deter-gents	Synthetic resins	Synthetic rubber	Dyestuffs and pigments	Fertilisers	Products of other chemical industries	Of which: Pesticides	Photo-graphic materials	Total
	271/1	271/2	271/3	272	273	274	275	276/1	276/2	277	278	279	279/4	279/7	
1966	41.9	69.7	74.3	70.4	13.0	14.1	14.9	86.0	10.7	36.8	7.8	62.1	15.0	19.0	500.5
1967	41.4	75.4	77.5	75.2	14.0	13.4	16.2	91.5	10.0	37.5	8.4	65.8	17.0	21.3	526.2
1968	50.1	99.3	93.9	92.6	17.3	16.3	18.6	107.0	14.1	45.1	7.5	86.0	21.0	30.4	647.8
1969	51.3	109.8	109.5	112.9	20.4	17.6	22.5	124.1	17.5	50.1	6.4	102.9	26.2	37.4	744.0
1970	61.5	135.7	127.0	134.1	22.4	19.5	23.5	139.1	19.8	53.6	4.8	109.8	26.5	44.7	851.0
1971	62.7	154.4	148.9	161.1	23.9	21.6	23.8	154.9	22.2	58.7	3.6	126.8	32.7	51.2	962.6
1972	58.0	160.5	155.3	172.9	28.2	19.7	28.8	171.4	25.7	79.2	7.0	129.2	33.5	60.1	1,036.0
1973	81.5	244.1	198.0	212.6	34.4	24.2	38.0	217.5	34.3	107.0	14.8	158.3	42.0	72.8	1,364.6
1974	128.1	545.3	311.3	287.1	46.8	38.2	70.5	357.2	46.6	162.2	45.7	221.9	60.7	89.6	2,260.9
1969 1st qtr.	11.5	24.3	23.8	25.3	4.3	4.0	4.9	27.8	4.2	11.1	1.9	23.3	6.4	7.5	166.5
2nd qtr.	13.8	26.8	28.5	28.6	5.0	4.4	5.1	32.3	4.3	12.7	1.0	27.2	7.3	9.9	189.7
3rd qtr.	13.2	28.7	29.0	29.0	5.1	4.4	6.2	30.2	4.0	12.4	0.8	25.8	6.1	9.9	188.8
4th qtr.	12.8	30.0	28.3	29.9	5.9	4.9	6.3	33.8	5.0	13.9	1.6	26.6	6.4	10.1	199.0
1970 1st qtr.	13.7	31.8	29.1	31.0	5.0	4.3	5.6	33.2	4.4	12.5	1.7	26.0	8.0	9.1	198.2
2nd qtr.	18.3	33.0	31.6	32.7	6.0	5.1	6.0	37.8	5.9	14.3	1.4	30.5	8.3	12.2	222.5
3rd qtr.	13.8	32.6	30.5	31.3	5.3	4.4	5.6	31.2	4.6	12.7	0.6	25.4	5.1	11.7	198.1
4th qtr.	15.9	38.3	35.8	39.0	6.2	5.6	6.3	37.0	4.9	14.1	1.1	27.9	5.0	11.7	232.2
1971 1st qtr.	14.8	35.3	30.5	34.3	5.1	4.9	5.6	34.2	5.3	13.2	1.4	28.0	8.1	10.7	212.8
2nd qtr.	16.7	41.2	37.6	44.6	5.9	5.6	6.2	39.8	5.0	14.7	0.8	34.8	9.8	13.8	252.7
3rd qtr.	15.3	38.1	42.4	40.4	6.0	5.2	6.0	38.2	5.5	14.8	0.4	30.2	7.1	13.3	242.5
4th qtr.	15.8	39.9	38.3	41.9	6.9	5.8	6.0	42.7	6.4	16.0	1.0	33.8	7.7	13.4	254.6
1972 1st qtr.	12.6	36.0	37.5	41.7	6.4	4.7	6.9	41.2	6.8	17.6	1.8	30.1	9.0	12.7	243.5
2nd qtr.	16.7	43.7	42.3	43.7	7.3	5.7	7.9	45.7	6.6	22.0	1.4	38.9	11.8	16.8	281.9
3rd qtr.	11.5	37.1	34.4	37.7	5.9	3.9	6.0	34.1	5.1	16.7	1.4	25.4	4.9	13.6	219.3
4th qtr.	17.1	43.6	41.2	49.9	8.5	5.4	8.0	50.3	7.2	22.9	2.4	34.8	7.8	17.0	291.3
1973 1st qtr.	16.6	52.4	42.5	48.5	7.8	5.3	8.7	50.8	7.9	23.8	3.9	38.7	12.5	15.8	306.8
2nd qtr.	19.9	58.8	52.0	54.3	8.7	6.2	9.5	55.0	8.9	25.6	3.7	43.2	11.8	20.1	345.8
3rd qtr.	21.4	62.5	48.8	52.5	8.8	5.9	9.1	50.5	8.1	26.3	2.1	37.3	8.2	18.7	333.3
4th qtr.	23.6	70.5	54.6	57.3	9.0	6.8	10.7	61.2	9.4	31.2	5.0	39.1	9.5	18.2	378.7
1974 1st qtr.	26.2	105.6	58.0	61.6	9.8	7.5	12.7	72.0	10.9	39.9	9.7	48.1	15.3	18.2	462.0
2nd qtr.	31.8	144.5	77.3	69.4	11.6	9.9	17.6	96.2	12.7	45.2	9.4	56.7	16.2	23.6	582.3
3rd qtr.	35.3	150.7	84.7	75.7	12.8	10.6	18.3	95.7	12.0	41.5	10.0	57.4	12.3	25.8	604.7
4th qtr.	34.8	144.6	91.3	80.3	12.6	10.2	21.8	93.2	11.0	35.7	16.6	59.8	16.9	21.9	612.0
1975 1st qtr.	38.2	108.6	74.9	80.8	12.9	11.4	18.2	84.6	8.9	34.9	27.2	67.5	22.4	24.4	568.1
2nd qtr.	31.8	105.0	86.9	95.8	14.9	12.1	21.6	81.8	9.4	32.4	15.0	72.5	25.2	26.0	579.2

TABLE 4 Home market prices

1970 = 100

	1968 MLH	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1973				1974				1975	
									1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr.	2nd qtr. p
Inorganic chemicals	271/1	92.6	95.0	100.0	108.0	112.3	116.8	140.7	114.9	115.2	117.4	119.7	126.2	137.7	145.7	153.3	170.1	194.4
Organic chemicals	271/2	98.7	98.3	100.0	106.3	108.1	112.9	185.7	110.0	111.2	113.5	117.0	157.4	189.0	197.5	199.1	210.3	220.8
Other chemicals	271/3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pharmaceutical chemicals	272	86.6	87.5	100.0	110.4	107.7	112.6	137.6	106.9	106.9	115.4	121.3	126.1	130.8	139.0	154.7	169.2	178.6
Pharmaceutical preparations	272	99.7	98.3	100.0	103.6	109.1	112.3	126.9	111.5	110.6	112.7	114.5	117.1	122.8	130.0	137.8	145.8	154.3
Toilet preparations	273	92.3	93.9	100.0	108.3	118.6	124.3	136.8	123.1	123.4	125.0	125.9	129.0	134.8	138.9	144.5	152.9	159.9
Paint	274	93.1	94.0	100.0	112.4	120.6	127.5	161.9	124.7	125.1	127.0	133.4	141.5	159.5	165.8	180.7	196.0	201.6
Soap and synthetic detergents	275	90.6	93.5	100.0	103.0	112.3	123.8	162.8	115.1	118.1	128.7	133.3	145.3	160.7	168.4	176.9	181.0	182.4
Synthetic resins and plastics materials	276/1	96.5	97.1	100.0	102.6	103.8	105.6	156.4	104.1	103.7	106.0	108.7	133.0	156.7	163.9	172.1	177.0	180.1
Dyestuffs and pigments	277	89.2	93.1	100.0	111.6	115.7	122.6	141.5	117.8	120.9	123.7	125.5	131.4	138.7	144.5	151.3	158.9	167.9
Total	Order V*	94.7	95.5	100.0	108.2	113.7	118.9	152 8	117.0	117.1	119.2	122.5	135.5	150.3	158.2	167.3	177.4	186.4
Total all manufacturing industry		89.9	93.4	100.0	109.0	114.8	123.2	152.1	119.5	120.1	124.2	129.1	138.3	148.9	156.1	164.9	176.0	186.3

* This price index refers only to sales outside the chemicals industry, including sectors not shown above.
.. not available.

TABLE 5 Prices of materials and fuel purchased by the chemicals and allied industries (Order V) and by manufacturing industry

1970 = 100

	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1973				1974				1975	
								1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.
Order V	91.2	93.5	100.0	108.8	112.2	135.9	215.4	120.5	126.8	141.9	154.5	200.7	214.1	219.3	227.3	230.9	233.4
Manufacturing industry	91.5	95.0	100.0	104.6	109.2	144.5	215.1	126.0	133.3	150.9	167.6	212.5	213.7	212.9	222.1	220.9	225.5

TABLE 6 Employment in Great Britain

Thousands

	MLH	1973		1974				1975	
		September	December	March	June	September	December	March	June
General chemicals	271	134.1	135.5	133.8	133.1	135.4	136.3	135.6	134.9
Pharmaceutical chemicals and preparations	272	75.0	96.7	76.6	76.4	78.3	78.8	77.6	74.3
Toilet preparations	273	27.3	27.9	27.1	27.1	27.7	26.5	26.2	24.0
Paint	274	27.3	27.3	27.2	27.4	27.8	27.5	27.1	27.3
Soap and detergents	275	15.3	15.5	15.2	15.8	16.3	16.2	16.2	14.9
Synthetic resins and plastics materials and synthetic rubber	276	47.7	49.5	48.5	49.4	50.2	50.2	48.4	47.5
Dyestuffs and pigments	277	22.3	22.9	23.0	23.4	24.1	24.1	23.6	23.2
Fertilisers	278	10.8	11.2	11.5	11.7	11.7	11.8	11.7	11.7
Other chemical industries	279	69.0	69.1	68.0	67.8	68.7	68.1	67.5	67.6
Total		428.8	435.6	430.9	432.1	440.1	439.6	434.0	425.3
Total manufacturing		7,724.1	7,799.4	7,685.7	7,705.0	7,758.9	7,710.4	7,536.1	7,378.6

Source: Department of Employment

TABLE 7 Capital expenditure

	Current prices	£ million 1970 prices
1963	127.8	172.7
1964	162.2	214.8
1965	217.4	274.0
1966	254.3	304.8
1967	214.7	256.1
1968	223.1	256.0
1969	267.6	296.4
1970	382.3	382.3
1971	367.1	333.9
1972	281.7	240.5
1973	250.9	193.3
1974	382.2	241.2

		Actual	Seasonally adjusted
1970	1st quarter	82.1	92.3
	2nd quarter	89.9	93.9
	3rd quarter	93.6	96.7
	4th quarter	116.7	99.4
1971	1st quarter	89.2	88.7
	2nd quarter	82.4	78.5
	3rd quarter	90.6	84.8
	4th quarter	104.9	81 9
1972	1st quarter	76 7	69.7
	2nd quarter	71.0	62.8
	3rd quarter	64.9	57.4
	4th quarter	69.1	50.6
1973	1st quarter	59.8	49.9
	2nd quarter	60.4	49.1
	3rd quarter	58.9	47.4
	4th quarter	71.8	46.9
1974	1st quarter	72.3	53.9
	2nd quarter	80.2	55.4
	3rd quarter	92.1	60.6
	4th quarter	137.6	71.3
1975	1st quarter	132.7	77.0
	2nd quarter	147.4 p	76.6

Engineering industries sales and orders (SIC orders VII, VIII and IX)

The provisional trend estimates and seasonally adjusted volume index numbers of engineering sales and orders to June 1975 are contained in the accompanying table. Following a period from the autumn of 1974 to the spring of this year when the trend in sales was relatively flat, the levels of both domestic and export sales have fallen in recent months. The trend in total net new orders on the other hand, after

Index numbers for the combined engineering industries (SIC Orders VII, VIII and IX) (a)

Volume index numbers: Orders-on-hand. December 1970 unadjusted = 100 Net new orders and sales, 1970 average monthly sales = 100

	Total			Home			Export		
	Orders-on-hand (end of period)	Net new orders	Sales	Orders-on-hand (end of period)	Net new orders	Sales	Orders-on-hand (end of period)	New net orders	Sales
Trend estimates									
1973 July	118	138	114	123	140	118	108	134	103
August	121	140	114	125	141	119	112	139	103
September	124	141	114	128	140	118	117	142	103
October	128	139	113	131	137	117	122	144	103
November	131	135	112	133	131	116	126	144	103
December	133	130	111	134	124	114	131	143	103
1974 January	135	125	110	135	117	112	135	142	104
February	136	121	109	135	112	111	140	141	105
March	137	117	109	135	109	110	143	139	108
April	138	115	110	134	107	110	146	135	110
May	138	114	112	133	108	111	148	128	113
June	138	112	113	133	109	112	149	120	115
July	137	110	114	132	109	113	148	111	116
August	136	107	114	131	108	113	147	104	117
September	135	103	113	130	104	112	144	100	117
October	133	100	113	128	100	111	142	98	118
November	131	96	113	126	95	110	140	98	118
December	128	93	112	124	91	110	137	97	118
1975 January	125	91	113	121	89	110	135	97	118
February	122	91	112	118	89	110	132	97	117
March	120	92	111	115	90	109	130	97	117
April	118	93	110	112	91	108	128	99	116
May	116	95	108	111	92	106	126	101	115
June	114	96	107	109	93	104	125	103	114
Percentage change (b) Mar.-June 1975	−4.5	4.0	−4.0	−5.0	3.0	−4.5	−3.5	5.5	−2.5
Seasonally adjusted									
1969	101	100	97	102	99	99	100	102	91
1970	100	99	100	100	99	100	100	100	100
1971	93	97	101	95	98	101	89	93	102
1972	99	103	101	103	108	105	90	91	92
1973	133	134	113	134	136	117	130	130	102
1974	129	109	111	124	105	111	138	118	113
1973 3rd quarter	125	142	114	128	143	118	117	139	104
4th quarter	133	135	113	134	132	117	130	143	104
1974 1st quarter	136	117	109	133	109	111	143	139	104
2nd quarter	139	119	111	134	114	110	150	132	113
3rd quarter	135	104	115	131	106	114	143	99	117
4th quarter	129	96	111	124	93	109	138	104	117
1975 1st quarter	119	89	114	114	88	112	129	92	117
2nd quarter	114	96	107	109	93	104	125	104	115
1973 October	127	131	114	130	130	119	121	135	102
November	131	147	116	133	142	121	127	157	105
December	133	127	109	134	123	111	130	136	104
1974 January	136	126	104	136	119	107	136	143	99
February	136	115	110	135	107	111	139	133	108
March	136	111	112	133	100	115	143	140	106
April	138	120	110	133	110	108	147	146	114
May	139	115	108	134	111	108	149	125	108
June	139	122	114	134	120	113	150	127	116
July	137	97	116	131	94	116	149	106	115
August	136	105	115	130	107	112	146	101	122
September	135	110	113	131	118	112	143	88	115
October	133	102	113	129	99	111	142	107	117
November	131	94	111	127	92	109	140	100	114
December	129	93	111	124	88	107	138	106	120
1975 January	125	87	113	120	86	112	135	89	117
February	122	93	116	117	93	114	132	95	120
March	119	86	112	114	83	111	129	91	114
April	117	98	110	112	94	107	128	106	117
May	116	100	106	111	99	103	126	103	114
June	114	92	106	109	87	103	125	103	113
Jan.-Mar. 75 (av.)	119	89	114	114	88	112	129	92	117
Apr.-June 1975 (av.)	114	96	107	109	93	104	125	104	115
Percentage change (b)	−3.5	8.5	−5.5	−4.0	6.5	−7.0	−3.0	13.5	−2.0

(a) All figures are provisional.
(b) For orders on hand, the percentage changes compare the level at the end of the latest period shown with the corresponding level for the earlier period. The percentage changes have been based on the unrounded values and are given to the nearest half percentage point.

a long and marked decline, appears to have turned around, with both domestic and export new orders showing some recovery from low levels at the beginning of this year. However, it is still too early to appraise the significance of this improved trend. Also, despite this partial recovery, the recent inflow of new business is still much lower than current sales, and order books are still falling throughout the engineering sector.

As in previous periods of weak demand and declining order books, the decrease in engineering orders-on-hand over the past year has been followed first by a levelling in the growth of sales and more recently by declining deliveries. The trend estimates show that the volume of total sales decreased by 4 per cent between March and June with home sales falling by 4½ per cent and export sales by 2½ per cent. The seasonally adjusted index numbers for the first two quarters of this year show somewhat similar results but with the suggestion that the decline in home sales in recent months has been sharper with a fall of 7 per cent between the first and second quarters. This marked falling-off of domestic sales in recent months reflects, however, sharply lower deliveries of a number of electrical goods; in particular domestic electrical goods following the VAT increase as well as low figures for computers, deliveries of which are somewhat erratic.

The trend of total net new orders increased by 4 per cent during the three-months ending in June, reflecting some improvement in the receipt of new contracts both in the home and export markets. Despite these generally rising trends there was, within an improved level of net new home orders in the second quarter as a whole, a sharp fall in the seasonally adjusted net new orders on the home market in June, while on the export market, new orders continued close to the second quarter average which was sharply higher than in the first quarter. These figures suggest that new orders are at least now steadying following a decline of some 40 per cent from peak levels for both home and export net new orders reached in the third quarter of 1973.

The improvement in the trend of new orders is not yet sufficient to balance the reduced level of sales and to hold order books steady. After falling by nearly 15 per cent since mid-1974, between March and June of this year total orders-on-hand fell by a further 4½ per cent, with home orders-on-hand shortening by 5 per cent and export orders-on-hand by 3½ per cent.

The revised figures published in this table are based on the Monthly Engineering Inquiry relating to June 1975. The response rate of 83 per cent to the inquiry for June is judged sufficient to justify publication of provisional indices for this month. Taking into account late returns now received for March, April and May, response rates for these months were 88, 87 and 86 per cent respectively.

When using the volume index numbers and trends shown in the accompanying table, it should be borne in mind that, when price increases are large, the various problems associated with revaluation of the values of engineering sales and orders to constant prices become more acute. Because of these difficulties the relative accuracy of the volume estimates is likely to have been reduced in recent months and studies are currently in hand to ascertain the possible directions and magnitudes of any biasses, which may lead to revisions in due course.

Business Monitor PM 33-36, Engineering (volume indices of sales and orders) is obtainable from HMSO, PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH, post free for a subscription of £1.40 per annum. Volume indices are given for sales, orders-on-hand and net new orders for total, home and export markets, for each of the three SIC Orders VII, VIII and IX 'mechanical, instrument and electrical engineering respectively).

Release dates of economic statistics to be published in October

This notice is issued by the Central Statistical Office on behalf of the Government Statistical Service and other organisations as a guide to the dates of publication of major economic series in October. The dates are those which Departments, or other organisations concerned, are aiming at, and would normally expect to meet. Exceptionally, there may be a delay resulting from unavoidable statistical problems of collection and compilation. Further inquiries about individual series should be addressed to the source named.

Publication date	Series	Method of release*	Source
October			
2 Thurs.	Unemployment (Aug.-final) Employment in production industries (July) Overtime and short-time working in manufacturing industries (July) Stoppages of work due to industrial disputes (Aug.)	Gazette	Department of Employment
	United Kingdom official reserves (Sept.)	PN	HM Treasury
	Capital issues and redemptions (during month of Sept.)	PN	Bank of England
6 Mon.	Hire purchase and other instalment credit business (Aug.) Retail trade (Aug.-final)	PN	Department of Industry
	Investment intentions of the manufacturing, distributive and service industries (1975 + 1976)	PN	Department of Industry
7 Tues.	Consolidated Fund and National Loans Fund (Sept.)	London Gazette	HM Treasury
	Provisional figures of vehicle production and estimates of new car registrations (Sept.-prov.)	PN	Department of Industry
8 Wed.	London clearing banks' monthly statement (mid-Sept.)	PN	CLCB
	UK banks' eligible liabilities, reserve assets, reserve ratios and special deposits (mid-Sept.)	PN	Bank of England
9 Thurs.	Personal income, expenditure and savings 2nd qtr.); gross domestic product (2nd qtr.-rev.)	PN	CSO
10 Fri.	Building Societies' receipts and loans (Sept.)	PN	BSA
	Index of industrial production (Aug.)	PN	CSO
13 Mon.	Central Government borrowing requirement (Aug.)	Financial Statistics	CSO/ Treasury
	Turnover of the catering trades (Aug.)	PN	Department of Industry
	Wholesale price index numbers (Sept.)	PN	Department of Industry
14 Tues.	Balance of payments current account and overseas trade figures incorporating the import and export unit value and volume numbers and the terms of trade (Sept.)	PN	Department of Trade/ CSO
17 Fri.	Crude steel production (Sept.)	PN	BSC/ BISPA
	Retail prices index (Sept.)	PN	Department of Employment
20 Mon.	UK banks' assets and liabilities and the money stock (mid.-Sept.)	PN	Bank of England
	Basic rates of wages and normal weekly hours (end-Sept.) Monthly index of average earnings (Aug.)	PN	Department of Employment
	Sterling certificates of deposit (mid-Sept.)	PN	Bank of England
	London dollar certificates of deposit (mid-Sept.)	PN	Bank of England
	Appropriate account of companies (2nd qtr.) Net acquisition of financial assets – analysis by sector (2nd qtr.) Financial accounts of industrial and commercial company and personal sectors (2nd qtr.)	PN	CSO
	Retail trade (Sept.-prov.)	PN	Department of Industry
21 Tues.	Unemployment (Oct.-prov.) Unfilled vacancies (Oct.-prov.)	PN	Department of Employment
22 Wed.	Consumers' expenditure (1st preliminary estimate) (3rd qtr.)	PN	CSO
	New vehicle registrations (Sept.)	PN	Department of the Environment
23 Thurs.	Car and commercial vehicle production (Sept.-final)	PN	Department of Industry
24 Fri.	Sales and orders in the engineering industries (July)	T and I	Department of Industry
26 Sun.	National Savings monthly progress report (Sept.)	PN	National Savings Committee
29 Wed.	Slum clearance (3rd qtr.) Housing starts and completions (Sept.) House renovation grants (Sept.)	PN	Department of the Environment
30 Thurs.	Unemployment (Sept.-final) Employment in production industries (Aug.) Overtime and short-time working in manufacturing industries (Aug.) Stoppages of work due to industrial disputes (Sept.)	Gazette	Department of Employment
	Energy trends	PN	Department of Energy
	Bricks and cement production (Sept.)	PN	Department of the Environment
31 Fri.	Construction – new orders (Aug.)	PN	Department of the Environment

* PN = Press Notice

Index of industrial production for July 1975

The provisional estimate for the total index in July 1975 is 100.0 and for manufacturing alone it is 100.3 (1970 = 100).

Latest estimates suggest that industrial output has continued to decline in recent months.

Index of industrial production

Seasonally adjusted

1970 = 100

	Total all industries	Mining and quarrying	Manufacturing industries												
			Total	Food, drink and tobacco					Engineering and allied industries						
				Total	Food	Drink and tobacco	Coal and petroleum products	Chemicals and allied industries	Total	Mechanical engineering	Instrument engineering	Electrical engineering	Shipbuilding and marine engineering	Total vehicles	Metal goods n.e.s.
Weights	1,000	37	745	84	52	32	7	58	319	100	15	67	16	73	48
1971	100.5	99.7	99.7	100.7	100.1	101.7	103.4	102.2	99.4	100.1	100.8	102.6	96.6	99.3	94.0
1972	102.6	84.0	102.3	105.0	104.2	106.4	102.6	108.1	100.0	95.0	93.1	110.3	91.8	103.7	95.7
1973	110.2	93.6	110.9	109.3	106.4	114.0	110.0	121.6	108.0	103.5	102.1	125.9	95.1	105.0	103.5
1974	106.4	83.6	108.0	110.0	104.7	118.7	106.1	128.0	105.9	104.0	105.0	120.6	95.6	98.5	104.3
1974 1st qtr.	104.0	57.7	106.3	113.8	108.8	122.0	102.3	126.0	101.9	101.1	100.6	119.1	85.7	92.1	100.3
2nd qtr.	107.9	90.6	109.6	109.7	105.6	116.6	111.9	128.5	106.9	104.6	106.8	119.9	97.3	100.4	106.7
3rd qtr.	108.4	92.9	109.9	109.3	104.2	117.6	104.2	132.1	108.5	105.1	106.1	124.4	98.7	102.9	105.7
4th qtr.	105.3	93.3	106.1	107.2	100.1	118.8	105.9	125.3	106.2	105.1	106.5	119.0	100.5	98.5	104.4
1975 1st qtr.	104.4	92.5	105.7	107.2	98.9	120.9	94.6	117.8	107.1	106.5	104.7	119.3	101.3	101.6	102.7
2nd qtr.	100.1	91.1	100.2	104.4	96.2	117.9	92.3	111.3	101.7	105.3	103.9	112.9	101.3	92.8	91.3
1974 July	109.0	94	110.5	109	105	117	96	133	109	105	106	125	97	105	107
Aug.	108.9	93	110.8	109	104	118	109	131	109	105	106	125	99	107	106
Sept.	107.3	92	108.5	109	104	118	107	133	107	106	106	124	100	97	104
Oct.	106.2	93	106.6	107	100	118	106	128	106	105	106	120	100	97	105
Nov.	105.8	93	106.9	107	100	118	108	126	107	105	107	119	101	101	106
Dec.	103.8	93	104.9	108	100	120	104	122	106	105	107	118	101	98	103
1975 Jan.	105.1	90	107.2	110	101	126	100	122	109	106	105	120	102	106	104
Feb.	105.0	92	106.6	108	100	120	94	120	107	107	105	120	101	102	102
Mar.	103.2	95	103.3	104	97	116	90	111	106	107	104	118	101	97	102
Apr.	101.5	94	101.7	104	94	120	91	114	104	105	105	115	101	99	94
May	99.5	91	99.5	105	98	115	96	108	100	105	104	113	101	87	91
Jun.	99.5	89	99.6	105	96	118	89	112	101	105	103	110	102	93	90
Jul.	100.0	90	100.3	104	93	122	87	116	102	105	103	110	101	96	91
Feb.-Apr. (av.)	103.2	94	103.9	105	97	119	92	115	106	106	105	118	101	99	99
May-Jul. (av.)	99.7	90	99.8	105	96	118	91	112	101	105	103	111	101	92	91

	Manufacturing industries (continued)													Construction	Gas, electricity and water
	Metal manufacture			Textiles, leather and clothing				Bricks, pottery, glass, etc.							
	Total	Ferrous	Non-ferrous	Total	Textiles	Leather, leather goods and fur	Clothing and footwear	Total	Bricks, cement, etc.	Pottery and glass	Timber, furniture, etc.	Paper, printing and publishing	Other manufacturing industries		
Weights	57	43	14	76	49	3	24	27	17	10	22	64	31	146	72
1971	91.2	89.8	95.4	102.3	100.7	103.0	105.4	107.7	106.3	109.8	103.0	97.3	99.7	102.9	103.9
1972	91.0	89.4	95.7	104.6	103.0	104.5	107.8	114.2	113.6	115.1	113.5	102.6	104.2	104.5	111.2
1973	99.4	97.3	106.1	110.0	108.6	101.0	114.4	126.5	124.8	129.1	132.6	112.1	116.5	107.2	117.8
1974	91.5	87.7	103.5	103.5	100.4	96.3	110.8	117.8	109.4	130.8	112.4	109.4	113.8	98.1	118.6
1974 1st qtr.	91.0	86.3	105.5	101.1	99.2	97.4	105.4	117.6	106.6	134.8	117.5	108.9	112.7	101.6	108.5
2nd qtr.	91.4	86.5	106.7	107.8	105.6	99.5	113.6	121.5	114.7	132.1	116.8	111.7	118.3	98.9	118.1
3rd qtr.	94.9	91.7	104.8	105.4	101.8	95.4	114.1	117.6	110.3	129.0	110.5	110.5	117.4	98.1	121.7
4th qtr.	88.9	86.3	96.8	99.7	95.2	92.8	110.1	114.4	106.2	127.2	105.0	106.6	106.9	93.7	126.2
1975 1st qtr.	92.0	89.5	99.7	100.4	94.6	87.9	114.0	113.5	105.8	125.5	111.6	100.9	103.6	93.5	119.9
2nd qtr.	73.5	68.3	89.8	98.1	94.4	84.7	107.8	106.1	102.2	112.2	111.8	97.7	101.6	92.5	119.3
1974 July	95	92	103	107	103	95	116	117	112	123	111	112	118		123
Aug.	103	101	109	106	103	95	114	119	109	134	111	110	113		120
Sept.	87	82	103	103	99	95	112	117	109	129	109	109	121		122
Oct.	86	82	101	102	98	93	110	115	106	128	105	108	111		134
Nov.	90	85	104	100	96	93	111	115	106	129	106	107	110		126
Dec.	91	92	86	97	92	93	109	113	106	125	104	104	99		118
1975 Jan.	92	87	107	101	94	88	117	113	106	123	109	101	107		114
Feb.	95	95	95	101	95	88	113	117	110	128	114	103	106		118
Mar.	89	87	97	99	94	88	111	111	101	126	112	99	98		127
Apr.	80	76	91	96	93	86	105	108	104	115	111	99	99		122
May	71	66	87	99	95	85	108	108	102	115	112	99	102		118
Jun.	70	63	91	99	95	84	110	103	100	106	112	95	105		118
Jul.	69	63	87	102	96	83	116	103	101	107	111	97	101		115
Feb.-Apr. (av.)	88	86	94	99	94	87	110	112	105	123	112	100	101		122
May-Jul. (av.)	70	64	88	100	95	84	111	105	101	109	112	97	103		117

It is provisionally estimated that the average level of the all-industries' index in the three months to July was 3½ per cent below its level in the preceding three months; the corresponding fall in the index for manufacturing alone was 4 per cent.

Many of the series used in compiling the index of production, in particular for manufacturing industry, measure deliveries rather than production. Deliveries and production in a month may differ because of movements in stocks. The use of such series resulted in the all-industries' index understating the level of the output by about ¼ per cent in the first quarter and overstating the level of output by about ¾ per cent in the second quarter. Thus the decline in output between the two quarters was about 1 per cent greater than the figures in the table indicate. Evidence on the monthly pattern of stock movements in April to June, while less reliable than the estimates for the quarter as a whole, suggests that the overstatement was most pronounced at the end of the quarter.

On a longer-term comparison, the all-industries' index in the latest three months was about 8 per cent below its level in the third quarter of 1974; the corresponding fall for manufacturing industry was about 9 per cent.

The index numbers in this article and in the tables are all seasonally adjusted. The seasonal adjustment process removes annually recurring month-to-month variations due, for example, to the incidence of holidays. The index numbers incorporate revised and later information for a number of industries. The estimates have also been revised to take account of the annual recalculation of seasonal factors. The net effect of all these changes for the second quarter of 1975 is to revise the all-industries' index downward by about ½ per cent.

About two-thirds of the index of production is derived by the revaluation to the prices of 1970 of data expressed at current prices. When the rate of change of prices is relatively large, or itself changes rapidly, the problems associated with this revaluation become more acute. For this reason the estimates for periods since about the end of 1973 should be regarded as subject to wider margins of error than in earlier years.

The average index numbers of the latest three months and the previous three months shown at the foot of the table give a general guide to the changes which have taken place in the output of the major groups in recent months.

Sales in the carpet industry in July

The daily rate of manufacturers' sales by value in July 1975 at current prices was provisionally estimated to have been 10 per cent more than in July 1974, assuming 23 working days in both months. In the three months ended July 1975, the daily rate of manufacturers' sales was provisionally estimated to have been 7 per cent more than in the corresponding period 12 months ago, assuming 65 working days in both periods. The index numbers, which are of manufacturers' sales by value, have been adjusted for the length of the working month, but not for non-statutory holidays or other seasonal factors. The Wholesale Price Index of carpets is shown as a guide to the movement in prices.

1970 = 100

		Index of manufacturers' sales at current prices	Wholesale price index
1969		93	96.6
1970		100	100.0
1971		115	104.9
1972		135	111.7
1973		166	130.2
1974		179	153.1
1974	Quarter ended June	186	150.6
	Quarter ended September	164	158.7
	Quarter ended December	202	161.5
1975	Quarter ended March	190	169.5
	Quarter ended June	194	171.1*
1974	April	183	148.4
	May	181	151.6
	June	194	151.9
	July	151	157.0
1975	April	187	170.4
	May	195	170.4
	June	201	172.7*
	July	167	179.7*

* Provisional.

Hosiery and other knitted goods – index of production

In the three months ended July 1975 the volume of production of hosiery and other knitted goods, seasonally adjusted (including knitted fabrics), was provisionally estimated to have been 6 per cent less than in the three months ended April 1975 and 18 per cent less than in the three months ended July 1974.

The seasonally adjusted figures for 1974 are based on the seasonal pattern up to the end of 1973 and may be subject to slight revision when the complete figures for 1974 have been incorporated. The actual figures allow for differences in the length of calendar months, but not for other seasonal variations.

In using the index numbers shown in the table, it should be borne in mind that, when price increases are large, the various problems associated with constructing a constant value series become more acute. Because of these difficulties the relative accuracy of the estimates is likely to have been reduced in recent months.

1970 = 100

1968	88
1969	98
1970	100
1971	99
1972	100
1973	103
1974	100

		Including warp knitting	
		Actual	Seasonally adjusted
1973	1st quarter	97	104
	2nd quarter	101	103
	3rd quarter	98	102
	4th quarter	115	102
1974	1st quarter	91	97
	2nd quarter	103	105
	3rd quarter	97	101
	4th quarter	108	95
1975	1st quarter p	88	94
	2nd quarter p	82	83
1974	January	77	91
	February	94	98
	March	101	102
	April	95	101
	May	99	102
	June	116	112
	July	88	100
	August	91	101
	September	113	102
	October	120	100
	November	124	104
	December	79	82
1975	January p	78	92
	February p	94	98
	March p	91	91
	April p	77	82
	May p	79	82
	June p	89	87
	July p	76	87

p = provisional.

Motor vehicle output in August

The four weeks to 23 August car output of 78,646 units (19,662 per week) was 30 per cent below the August 1974 level while commercial vehicle output, at 20,382 units (5,096 per week), was 19 per cent below that of August 1974. In the first eight months of 1975 car output was 21 per cent below that in the corresponding period of 1974, while production of commercial vehicles fell by less than one cent between the two periods.

(The comments which follow are based on the seasonally adjusted figures in Table 2.)

Cars

Seasonally adjusted, August car production at 102,000 units was 20 per cent below the average monthly level in 1974.

Production in the three months June to August, while somewhat higher than that of the preceding three months (which included the exceptionally low May figure) was nonetheless 18 per cent below the 1974 average. Within the total, production for the home market in June to August fell by nearly one-third compared with output in 1974 while production for export rose by 4 per cent.

Commercial vehicles

August production at 31,200 units was 7 per cent below the 1974 average. Total commercial vehicle production in June to August was 9 per cent less than the 1974 average, with home market production falling by 22 per cent and production for export increasing by 11 per cent.

TABLE 1 Recorded production

Production figures of road motor vehicles cover complete vehicles, chassis with engines for delivery as such and un-assembled vehicles for export. Road tractors are included but battery operated road vehicles are excluded.

Production for export may differ from actual exports as recorded in the Overseas Trade Statistics because of differences in timing and coverage.

		Passenger cars (including taxis)				Commercial road vehicles			
	No. of weeks	For home market	For export	Totals	Weekly average	For home market	For export	Totals	Weekly average
1967	52	988,273	563,740	1,552,013	29,846	245,692	139,414	385,106	7,406
1968	52	1,013,163	802,773	1,815,936	34,922	259,331	149,855	409,186	7,869
1969	53	892,758	824,315	1,717,073	32,398	272,998	192,778	465,776	8,788
1970	52	918,109	722,857	1,640,966	31,557	267,407	190,125	457,532	8,799
1971	52	1,027,462	714,478	1,741,940	33,499	268,278	187,928	456,206	8,773
1972	52	1,307,881	613,430	1,921,311	36,948	272,649	135,470	408,119	7,848
1973	52	1,142,216	605,105	1,747,321	33,602	257,574	159,049	416,623	8,012
1974	52	937,932	596,187	1,534,119	29,502	232,373	170,193	402,566	7,742
1975	52								
1974 1st quarter	13	237,232	150,688	387,920	29,840	52,641	36,845	89,486	6,884
2nd quarter	13	275,355	164,041	439,396	33,800	63,122	46,063	109,185	8,399
3rd quarter	13	185,497	121,121	306,618	23,586	50,233	39,800	90,033	6,926
4th quarter	13	239,848	160,337	400,185	30,783	66,377	47,485	113,862	8,759
1975 1st quarter	13	242,571	139,736	382,307	29,408	61,402	46,808	108,210	8,324
2nd quarter	13	145,107	142,664	287,771	22,136	49,650	48,435	98,085	7,545
3rd quarter	13								
4th quarter	13								
1974 January	4	61,781	37,628	99,409	24,852	13,989	9,595	23,584	5,896
February	4	73,721	50,721	124,442	31,110	16,048	11,428	27,476	6,869
March	5	101,730	62,339	164,069	32,814	22,604	15,822	38,426	7,685
April	4	74,411	40,917	115,328	28,832	18,881	12,913	31,794	7,948
May	4	99,873	58,240	158,113	39,528	20,614	15,513	36,127	9,032
June	5	101,071	64,884	165,955	33,191	23,627	17,637	41,264	8,253
July	4	56,304	37,405	93,709	23,427	14,978	12,841	27,819	6,955
August	4	66,368	46,662	113,030	28,258	14,701	10,495	25,196	6,299
September	5	62,825	37,054	99,879	19,976	20,554	16,464	37,018	7,404
October	4	73,584	49,228	122,812	30,703	20,846	14,332	35,178	8,794
November	4	84,742	55,632	140,374	35,094	22,364	16,125	38,489	9,622
December	5	81,522	55,477	136,999	27,400	23,167	17,028	40,195	8,039
1975 January	4	79,301	46,278	125,579	31,395	19,997	14,429	34,426	8,606
February	4	84,826	43,032	127,858	31,964	19,669	15,619	35,288	8,822
March	5	78,444	50,426	128,870	25,774	21,736	16,760	38,496	7,699
April	4	57,260	48,895	106,155	26,539	16,866	14,418	31,284	7,821
May	4	35,750	36,423	72,173	18,043	15,879	16,070	31,949	7,987
June	5	52,097	57,346	109,443	21,888	16,905	17,947	34,852	6,970
July	4	39,303	32,345	71,648	17,912	10,995	12,480	23,475	5,869
August	4	40,207	38,439	78,646	19,662	10,112	10,270	20,382	5,096
September	5								
October	4								
November	4								
December	5								

Do you use statistics?

The Government Statistical Service (GSS) prepares a wide range of reliable and detailed figures on the United Kingdom. It is usually worth checking to see if what you want is available from them. You can see many Government statistical publications at your local public library, buy them from HMSO or refer to the comprehensive collection held at the Statistics and Market Intelligence Library, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4N 7HU (tel. 01-248 5757 ext. 368).

A free pamphlet, *Government Statistics – a brief guide to sources*, gives up-to-date contact points in Departments for further information. You can obtain copies from regional offices of the Department of Industry or by writing to the Central Statistical Office Press and Information Service, Great George Street, London SW1P 3AQ.

TABLE 2 Production – seasonally adjusted

The seasonally adjusted series has been adjusted to exclude the effect of regularly recurring influences (eg holidays) but the figures still reflect the effect of factors that do not recur regularly (eg strikes).

Care should be taken not to interpret changes between one month and another as necessarily indicating the underlying trend. The averages in the latest three months and in the previous three months give a more reliable guide to recent changes.

MONTHLY AVERAGE — Thousands

	Passenger cars			Commercial vehicles		
	For home market	For export	Total	For home market	For export	Total
1967	82	47	129	20.5	11.6	32.1
1968	84	67	151	21.6	12.5	34.1
1969	74	69	143	22.7	16.1	38.8
1970	77	60	137	22.3	15.8	38.1
1971	86	59	145	22.3	14.7	38.0
1972	109	51	160	22.7	11.3	34.0
1973	95	50	145	21.5	13.2	34.7
1974	78	50	128	19.3	14.2	33.5
1975						
1974 1st quarter	69	42	111	16.6	11.7	28.3
2nd quarter	85	47	132	19.6	14.2	33.8
3rd quarter	83	55	138	21.3	16.2	37.5
4th quarter	76	54	130	19.9	14.7	34.6
1975 1st quarter	76	43	119	20.1	15.5	35.6
2nd quarter	46	43	89	15.8	15.0	30.8
3rd quarter						
4th quarter						
1974 January	56	44	100	15.2	12.3	27.5
February	70	36	106	16.2	11.0	27.2
March	80	46	126	18.5	11.7	30.2
April	79	32	111	19.9	13.8	33.7
May	93	56	149	21.3	14.5	35.8
June	81	55	136	17.7	14.2	31.9
July	97	66	163	22.0	16.7	38.7
August	88	61	149	22.1	16.8	38.9
September	64	37	101	19.8	15.1	34.9
October	72	49	121	18.8	14.0	32.8
November	82	60	142	20.1	15.3	35.4
December	75	53	128	20.8	14.8	35.6
1975 January	78	53	131	21.7	17.4	39.1
February	85	36	121	20.2	15.8	36.0
March	65	40	105	18.4	13.4	31.8
April	61	46	107	17.4	15.2	32.6
May	34	36	70	16.5	15.3	31.8
June	43	48	91	13.6	14.6	28.2
July	66	56	122	16.0	16.4	32.4
August	52	50	102	15.1	16.1	31.2
September						
October						
November						
December						
Average of:						
Mar.-May 1975	53	41	94	17.5	14.6	32.1
June-Aug. 1975	53	52	105	14.9	15.7	30.6
Percentage change	N/C	+27	+12	−15	+7	−5

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The Annual Census of Production Reports (the PA series of Monitors), and the 1971 Census of Distribution Reports (which are being published as Monitors SD 10 to SD 23, though not all are yet available) can be obtained on standing order from Her Majesty's Stationery Office, PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH, or can be purchased separately from the Government Bookshops or through booksellers.

Northern Ireland index of industrial production

The provisional index of production for July 1975 is 130 (1963 = 100), 32 points lower than the index for June. The index for all manufacturing industries at 130 is 32 points lower than June 1975.

The index numbers for the main industrial groups are: textiles 197, clothing 100, engineering and metals 101, food, drink and tobacco 112, timber and furniture 110, mineral products 112, other manufacturing industries 203, gas, electricity and water 122.

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Steel consumption and stocks in the second quarter

Revised seasonally adjusted estimates of aggregate consumption, deliveries and stocks of steel by type in the second quarter 1975, which are given in Tables 1 and 5 differ from the provisional estimates given in *Trade and Industry* of 22 August in the lower estimates of consumption, now estimated to be 3.63 million tonnes, the higher estimates of consumer and merchants stocks, now estimated to be 5.84 million and the corresponding higher estimate of the ratio of stocks to average weekly consumption now estimated to be over 20. Estimates of consumption and stocks by industry are given in Tables 2 to 4.

Consumption by industry: Table 2

The 15 per cent (0.63 million) fall in aggregate consumption of steel since the first quarter is distributed fairly evenly amongst all industries, with only shipbuilding showing no decrease.

Stocks by industry: Table 3

Stock levels have not changed substantially in any industry since the first quarter 1974. The largest changes were for shipbuilding, which increased its stocks (mainly of plate) to 0.51 million from the first quarter 1974 level of 0.37 million, and for the motor vehicle industry which decreased its stocks to 0.40 million from the first quarter 1974 level of 0.55 million.

Ratio of stocks to weekly consumption by industry: Table 4

Equally, the ratio of stocks to consumption has not changed substantially in any industry since the first quarter 1974. The largest change was for construction which increased its ratio to 25 from the first quarter 1974 level of 19. Shipbuilding construction and coalmining have the highest ratios of 37, 25 and 24, respectively. In contrast wire and wire manufactures, hollow-ware and electrical engineering have the lowest ratios of 8, 10 and 10, respectively.

Stocks by type of steel held by consumers and merchants: Table 5

Of the four types of steel identified in Table 5 stocks of plate have increased systematically since 1971, and are now estimated to be

TABLE 1 Consumption, deliveries and stocks of finished steel

Seasonally adjusted

	Consumption m. tonnes	Deliveries m. tonnes			Stocks m. tonnes			Ratio of stocks to weekly consumption (b)		
		From UK production to consumers and merchants	Imports	Total to consumers (a)	Consumers	Merchants	Total	Consumers	Merchants	Total
1968	16.83	15.46	1.56	17.00	3.26	0.61	3.87	9.8	1.7	11.3
1969	17.78	17.14	1.18	18.28	3.77	0.63	4.40	10.8	1.9	12.7
1970	17.64	17.10	1.04	17.91	4.15	0.87	5.02	11.9	2.5	14.4
1971	16.72	14.50	1.41	16.07	3.47	0.71	4.18	11.5	2.3	13.8
1972	16.75	14.59	2.14	16.72	3.44	0.72	4.16	9.6	2.0	11.6
1973	18.45	16.80	2.51	19.45	4.44	0.58	5.02	13.2	1.8	15.0
1974	17.58	15.07	3.29	18.07	4.96	0.87	5.83	15.1	2.6	17.7
1972 1st quarter	3.93	3.42	0.48	3.90	3.49	0.67	4.16	11.0	2.4	13.4
2nd quarter	4.04	3.43	0.47	3.88	3.33	0.68	4.01	10.0	2.2	12.2
3rd quarter	4.28	3.78	0.53	4.32	3.32	0.73	4.05	9.6	2.1	11.7
4th quarter	4.50	3.96	0.66	4.62	3.44	0.72	4.16	9.6	2.0	11.6
1973 1st quarter	4.67	4.15	0.65	4.80	3.57	0.73	4.30	10.6	2.2	12.8
2nd quarter	4.37	4.13	0.44	4.61	3.82	0.68	4.50	10.8	1.9	12.7
3rd quarter	4.60	4.26	0.61	4.91	4.12	0.64	4.76	11.1	1.8	12.9
4th quarter	4.81	4.26	0.81	5.13	4.44	0.58	5.02	13.2	1.8	15.0
1974 1st quarter	4.36	3.98	0.97	4.92	5.00	0.62	5.62	14.2	1.8	16.0
2nd quarter	4.59	3.93	0.82	4.62	5.06	0.75	5.81	15.5	2.3	17.8
3rd quarter	4.25	3.56	0.70	4.19	5.00	0.81	5.81	14.8	2.4	17.2
4th quarter	4.38	3.60	0.80	4.34	4.96	0.87	5.83	15.1	2.6	17.7
1975 1st quarter	4.26	3.55	0.85	4.24	4.94	1.03	5.97	17.7	3.7	21.4
2nd quarter	3.63	2.83	0.66	3.51	4.83	1.01	5.84	17.3	3.6	20.9

(a) Total deliveries to consumers are deliveries from UK production to consumers and stockholding merchants plus imports minus stock build by stockholding merchants.
(b) Calculated as stocks divided by weekly consumption in the following quarter, with the exception of the latest quarter when the divisor is weekly consumption in that quarter.

TABLE 2 Consumption of finished steel by industry group

Seasonally adjusted

Million tonnes

	Coalmining	Railways	Shipbuilding	Construction	Engineering		Motors	Hollow-ware	Wire and wire manufactures	Other consuming industries
					Electrical	Mechanical				
1968	0.47	0.37	0.61	2.81	0.78	3.62	2.24	1.05	1.17	3.71
1969	0.45	0.39	0.68	2.81	0.78	3.89	2.38	1.12	1.23	4.05
1970	0.44	0.40	0.68	2.86	0.77	3.83	2.32	1.12	1.25	3.97
1971	0.52	0.37	0.69	3.13	0.74	3.06	2.30	1.23	1.12	3.56
1972	0.47	0.37	0.72	2.99	0.76	3.18	2.21	1.23	1.14	3.68
1973	0.52	0.37	0.65	3.35	0.87	3.73	2.43	1.35	1.23	3.95
1974	0.50	0.48	0.58	3.08	1.07	3.54	2.13	1.33	1.12	3.75
1972 1st quarter	0.08	0.08	0.16	0.73	0.18	0.76	0.52	0.31	0.27	0.84
2nd quarter	0.13	0.09	0.19	0.71	0.19	0.76	0.53	0.28	0.28	0.88
3rd quarter	0.12	0.11	0.18	0.76	0.20	0.80	0.55	0.30	0.30	0.96
4th quarter	0.14	0.09	0.19	0.79	0.19	0.86	0.61	0.34	0.29	1.00
1973 1st quarter	0.13	0.09	0.20	0.83	0.21	0.93	0.60	0.32	0.34	1.02
2nd quarter	0.13	0.09	0.14	0.74	0.21	0.89	0.58	0.34	0.30	0.95
3rd quarter	0.13	0.09	0.15	0.86	0.23	0.95	0.63	0.33	0.29	0.94
4th quarter	0.13	0.10	0.16	0.92	0.22	0.96	0.62	0.36	0.30	1.04
1974 1st quarter	0.09	0.11	0.15	0.89	0.25	0.86	0.50	0.33	0.28	0.90
2nd quarter	0.12	0.12	0.13	0.81	0.28	0.93	0.56	0.37	0.27	1.00
3rd quarter	0.15	0.12	0.15	0.66	0.28	0.86	0.56	0.30	0.29	0.88
4th quarter	0.14	0.13	0.15	0.72	0.26	0.89	0.51	0.33	0.28	0.97
1975 1st quarter	0.14	0.15	0.18	0.71	0.22	0.92	0.48	0.30	0.27	0.89
2nd quarter	0.12	0.13	0.18	0.63	0.17	0.77	0.38	0.23	0.21	0.81

1.37 million tonnes, about 80 per cent above the 1971 level. This increase reflects mainly the sustained stock build by shipbuilders, while merchants have also increased stocks of plate, from 0.09 million in 1971 to 0.25 million. In contrast, stocks of sheet, although some 0.13 million higher than the 1971 level, decreased by 0.08 million in the second quarter 1975, with merchants decreasing their stocks by 0.03 million tonnes. Stocks of tinplate decreased by 0.03 million tonnes to 0.17 million tonnes, roughly equal to the 1971 level, while stocks of reinforcement bars at 0.26 million were the same as the first quarter 1974 level.

TABLE 3 Stocks of finished steel by industry group

Seasonally adjusted — million tonnes

	Coalmining	Railways	Shipbuilding	Construction	Engineering: Electrical	Engineering: Mechanical	Motors	Hollow-ware	Wire and wire manufactures	Other consuming industries
1968	0.11	0.09	0.21	0.71	0.11	0.74	0.40	0.17	0.10	0.62
1969	0.11	0.10	0.28	0.88	0.12	0.86	0.43	0.18	0.10	0.71
1970	0.11	0.12	0.29	1.06	0.14	0.93	0.46	0.16	0.14	0.74
1971	0.13	0.11	0.25	0.84	0.10	0.78	0.37	0.14	0.13	0.62
1972	0.09	0.08	0.27	0.83	0.10	0.80	0.38	0.14	0.12	0.63
1973	0.14	0.09	0.34	1.11	0.15	0.92	0.50	0.19	0.14	0.86
1974	0.19	0.14	0.45	1.22	0.17	1.05	0.46	0.20	0.15	0.93
1972 1st quarter	0.12	0.10	0.26	0.85	0.10	0.77	0.37	0.15	0.14	0.63
2nd quarter	0.10	0.10	0.25	0.40	0.10	0.76	0.35	0.15	0.13	0.59
3rd quarter	0.09	0.08	0.25	0.80	0.10	0.78	0.34	0.14	0.12	0.62
4th quarter	0.09	0.08	0.27	0.83	0.10	0.80	0.38	0.14	0.12	0.63
1973 1st quarter	0.11	0.09	0.26	0.87	0.11	0.82	0.40	0.15	0.11	0.65
2nd quarter	0.11	0.09	0.27	0.95	0.12	0.84	0.44	0.16	0.13	0.71
3rd quarter	0.12	0.09	0.31	1.05	0.14	0.85	0.46	0.19	0.13	0.78
4th quarter	0.14	0.09	0.34	1.11	0.15	0.92	0.50	0.19	0.14	0.86
1974 1st quarter	0.18	0.12	0.37	1.18	0.21	1.04	0.55	0.22	0.16	0.97
2nd quarter	0.20	0.13	0.42	1.23	0.20	1.07	0.49	0.19	0.17	0.97
3rd quarter	0.20	0.13	0.45	1.22	0.19	1.05	0.47	0.19	0.16	0.94
4th quarter	0.19	0.14	0.45	1.22	0.17	1.05	0.46	0.20	0.15	0.93
1975 1st quarter	0.20	0.13	0.48	1.22	0.16	1.03	0.43	0.20	0.16	0.93
2nd quarter	0.22	0.15	0.51	1.21	0.14	1.00	0.40	0.17	0.14	0.89

TABLE 4 Ratio of stocks to weekly consumption by industry group

Seasonally adjusted

	Coalmining	Railways	Shipbuilding	Construction	Engineering: Electrical	Engineering: Mechanical	Motors	Hollow-ware	Wire and wire manufactures	Other consuming industries
1968	12	14	17	14	7	10	8	8	4	8
1969	12	13	21	16	8	11	9	9	4	9
1970	10	16	22	16	9	14	10	6	6	10
1971	23	17	21	15	8	13	9	6	6	9
1972	9	11	18	13	6	11	8	6	5	8
1973	22	11	29	16	8	14	13	8	7	13
1974	17	14	38	22	9	15	12	8	7	12
1972 1st quarter	12	15	18	16	7	13	9	7	7	9
2nd quarter	10	12	18	14	6	12	8	6	6	8
3rd quarter	9	12	17	13	6	12	7	5	6	8
4th quarter	9	11	18	13	6	11	8	6	5	8
1973 1st quarter	11	14	24	15	7	12	9	6	5	9
2nd quarter	11	14	23	14	7	12	9	7	6	10
3rd quarter	12	11	26	15	8	12	10	7	6	10
4th quarter	22	11	29	16	8	14	13	8	7	13
1974 1st quarter	20	12	36	19	10	15	13	8	8	13
2nd quarter	17	14	37	24	9	16	11	8	8	14
3rd quarter	18	13	38	22	10	15	12	8	7	13
4th quarter	17	12	34	22	10	15	12	9	7	14
1975 1st quarter	23	14	35	25	11	17	15	11	9	15
2nd quarter	24	16	37	25	10	17	14	10	8	14

See note Table 1 (b).

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TABLE 5 Stocks of finished steel held by consumers and merchants

Seasonally adjusted — million tonnes

	Sheets	Plate	Tinplate	Rods and bars for reinforcement	Other steel products	Total all products
CONSUMERS						
1970	0.53	0.85	0.14	0.19	2.44	4.15
1971	0.42	0.67	0.14	0.14	2.10	3.47
1972	0.42	0.70	0.14	0.15	2.03	3.44
1973	0.60	0.91	0.16	0.22	2.55	4.44
1974	0.61	1.07	0.17	0.23	2.88	4.96
1974 1st quarter	0.72	1.03	0.19	0.25	2.81	5.00
2nd quarter	0.66	1.08	0.17	0.25	2.91	5.07
3rd quarter	0.62	1.07	0.17	0.21	2.93	5.00
4th quarter	0.61	1.07	0.17	0.23	2.88	4.96
1975 1st quarter	0.54	1.09	0.19	0.23	2.89	4.94
2nd quarter	0.49	1.12	0.16	0.25	2.81	4.83
MERCHANTS						
1970	0.25	0.19	0.02	0.02	0.39	0.87
1971	0.21	0.09	0.02	0.01	0.38	0.71
1972	0.20	0.12	0.02	0.01	0.37	0.72
1973	0.15	0.11	0.02	0.01	0.29	0.58
1974	0.27	0.18	0.01	0.01	0.40	0.87
1974 1st quarter	0.18	0.12	0.02	0.01	0.29	0.62
2nd quarter	0.25	0.14	0.02	0.01	0.33	0.75
3rd quarter	0.27	0.16	0.01	0.01	0.36	0.81
4th quarter	0.27	0.18	0.01	0.01	0.40	0.87
1975 1st quarter	0.30	0.24	0.01	0.01	0.47	1.03
2nd quarter	0.27	0.25	0.01	0.01	0.47	1.01
TOTAL						
1970	0.78	1.04	0.16	0.21	2.83	5.02
1971	0.63	0.76	0.16	0.15	2.48	4.18
1972	0.62	0.82	0.16	0.16	2.40	4.16
1973	0.75	1.02	0.18	0.23	2.84	5.02
1974	0.88	1.25	0.18	0.24	3.28	5.83
1974 1st quarter	0.90	1.15	0.21	0.26	3.10	5.62
2nd quarter	0.91	1.22	0.19	0.26	3.24	5.82
3rd quarter	0.89	1.23	0.18	0.22	3.29	5.81
4th quarter	0.88	1.25	0.18	0.24	3.28	5.83
1975 1st quarter	0.84	1.33	0.20	0.24	3.36	5.97
2nd quarter	0.76	1.37	0.17	0.26	3.28	5.84

The amphibious truck . . . with its step-climbing companion

On the left, a vehicle as happy on water as on land; on the right, a companion which makes light work of climbing steps. They are two models from a range of Privateer vehicles with glass fibre bodies produced by A. Hurst and Co. Ltd., Hastings. The vehicles use a twin-cylinder two-stroke 30 hp engine which gives a top speed of about 22 mph. Engine power is transmitted through carbon fibre toothed timing belts to two hydrostatic motors which replace wearing parts such as gears, torque converter and clutch. The only controls are two steering levers and a twist grip throttle. Direction is achieved by skid steering – by driving the wheels faster on one side than the other – and the vehicle can turn a full circle on the spot by placing one motor in forward drive and one in reverse. The Amphibious Six (left) has provision for an outboard motor which gives a water speed of 8 mph but, unassisted, will maintain 2 mph, the wheels working as paddles. There is 16 cu. ft. of storage space in the rear compartment. The Forester Eight, seen on the right climbing steps, is fitted with two platforms on either side for carrying logs and other materials and has 12 cu. ft. of storage space in the rear compartment.

Office development permits in the second quarter of 1975

The Department of the Environment reports that the total floor area comprised in office development permits issued in the second quarter of 1975 was 4.4 million sq. ft. compared with 1.2 million sq. ft. in the second quarter of 1974 and a quarterly average of 3.0 million sq. ft. for 1974 as a whole. Seventy-five permits were issued in the second quarter of 1975, 54 more than in the corresponding quarter of 1974.

After deduction of relinquishments of existing offices and of floorspace covered by permits for the continuing use of existing offices included in the total figures, there was a potential addition to office space by way of new building and conversion of non-office premises to office use of 1.3 million sq. ft. in the second quarter of 1975. This compares with 0.3 million sq. ft. for the corresponding quarter of 1974 and a quarterly average of 2.1 million sq. ft. for 1974 as a whole.

Twenty-five of the 75 permits issued in the second quarter of 1975 were for office development in Central London and covered 2.6 million sq. ft.; 21 covering 0.9 million sq. ft. were for development in Greater London excluding the centre; and 16 covering 0.5 million sq. ft. for development in the Metropolitan Region outside Greater London. Thirteen permits for a total floorspace of 0.4 million sq. ft. were issued in the part of the South East Planning Region lying outside the Metropolitan Region.

Tables showing office development permits since 1965 appeared in the 9 May 1975 issue of *Trade and Industry*.

TABLE 1 Office development permits — sub-divisions of South East Planning Region

	Central London			Rest of Greater London			Total Greater London		
		Thousand sq. ft.			Thousand sq. ft.			Thousand sq. ft.	
	Number	Gross	Relinquished	Number	Gross	Relinquished	Number	Gross	Relinquished
1973	126	7,677	2,567	137	8,001	844	263	15,678	3,411
1974	51	4,606	609	72	2,532	229	123	7,138	838
1974 1st quarter	13	1,425	313	18	681	94	31	2,106	407
2nd quarter	10	570	81	6	15	19	16	585	100
3rd quarter	13	1,769	212	32	1,346	84	45	3,115	296
4th quarter	15	842	3	16	490	32	31	1,332	35
1975 1st quarter	10	692	128	21	959	90	31	1,651	218
2nd quarter	25	2,586	202	21	934	37	46	3,520	239

TABLE 1 Office development permits — sub-divisions of South East Planning Region *(continued)*

	Metropolitan Region (excluding Greater London)			Total Metropolitan Region			South East (excluding Metropolitan Region)			Total South East		
		Thousand sq. ft.			Thousand sq. ft.			Thousand sq. ft.			Thousand sq. ft.	
	Number	Gross	Relinquished	Number	Gross	Relinquished	Number	Gross	Relinquished	Number	Gross	Relinquished
1973	130	5,732	454	393	21,410	3,865	84	4,484	325	477	25,894	4,190
1974	62	3,222	329	185	10,360	1,167	41	1,550	93	226	11,910	1,260
1974 1st quarter	9	731	86	40	2,837	493	7	139	56	47	2,976	549
2nd quarter	} 35	} 1,956	} 197	} 96	} 5,656	} 593	} 25	} 1,138	} 24	21	1,225	116
3rd quarter										100	5,569	501
4th quarter	18	535	46	49	1,867	81	9	273	13	58	2,140	94
1975 1st quarter	14	382	26	45	2,033	244	17	437	84	62	2,470	328
2nd quarter	16	487	5	62	4,007	244	13	423	19	75	4,430	263

In some instances, in order to avoid the risk of disclosing details of individual applicants, figures for the second and third quarters of 1974 have been combined.

Notes to tables

Application of Controls. Control was announced in November 1964 and applied to the Metropolitan Region (London and part of the South East Region) and Birmingham. In July 1966 control was extended to the whole South East and Midlands Regions and to East Anglia. In 1969 East Anglia and the rural Midlands were excluded and since 1970 control has remained in force only in the South East Region.

Modification to Controls. Since December 1970 the exemption limit for permits throughout the South East Region has been 10,000 sq. ft. Office development permits are not now required for offices ancillary to industrial development covered by an appropriate industrial development certificate.

Defintion of Areas.

CENTRAL LONDON—As defined in the General Register Office's 'Census 1961, County Report: London'.

METROPOLITAN REGION—From 1 January 1972, for statistical purposes only, the outer Metropolitan sub-division (rest of Metropolitan Region) is as defined in the Regional Abstract of Statistics No. 7. Otherwise the Metropolitan Region is as defined in Section 85 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1971 as amended by Article 13 of the Local Authorities, etc. (Miscellaneous Provisions) Order 1974 (SI 1974 No. 482).

SOUTH EAST PLANNING REGION—From 1 January 1972, for statistical purposes only, the outer South East sub-division (rest of South East Planning Region) is as defined in the Regional Abstract of Statistics No. 7. Otherwise the South East Planning Region corresponds to the standard region for statistical purposes as defined in the *Board of Trade Journal* of 31 December 1965, page 1567, as amended with effect from 18 July 1974 in accordance with the Control of Office Development (Designation of Areas) (Variation) Order 1974 (SI 1974 No. 1054) to correspond with the new standard region adjusted to take account of local government re-organisation.

Area Relinquished. Comprises office floor space relinquished for demolition or change of use to non-office uses.

Monthly Digest of Statistics

Prepared by the Central Statistical Office in collaboration with the Statistics Division of Government Departments, this digest is designed to provide industrialists and business executives with invaluable statistics relating to the economic situation in the United Kingdom. It contains a regular series of detailed statistics on a wide range of subjects which include the following: *Labour, Fuel and Power, External Trade, Wages and Prices, Industrial Production, Industrial Materials, Finance.*

Price 85p. Annual Subscription £12 including postage, and a copy of the Definitions of items and units employed in the Digest.

Government publications can be bought from the Government Bookshops in London (post orders to PO Box 569, SE1 9NH).

Edinburgh, Cardiff, Belfast, Manchester, Birmingham and Bristol, or through booksellers.

HMSO BOOKS

Retailers' stocks in July

Based on the non-seasonally adjusted data of Table 1, the level of stocks at book values in July was 14 per cent higher than a year earlier, but at constant prices it was 7 per cent lower.

The value of physical increase of retailers' stocks at 1970 prices and seasonally adjusted (Table 2) rose in July. Stocks in June had been little changed, and in May only a limited amount of stockbuilding had occurred following the substantial fall in April.

Revised long-run series are given in this article back to 1966. The index numbers now take into account results of the 1971 Census of Distribution and of the annual inquiries into retail distribution for 1972 and 1973.

TABLE 1 Level of retailers' stocks

Index numbers (end 1971 = 100) *and percentage increase on a year earlier* (At cost at end of month)

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
At book values:												
1966	66	69	71	71	72	72	71	72	73	77	80	71
1967	69	71	72	74	74	74	73	74	75	79	82	74
1968	73	74	77	78	79	80	79	80	81	87	90	82
1969	80	82	85	86	87	87	85	85	86	93	97	88
1970	84	86	89	90	89	90	89	89	91	97	102	93
1971	89	91	94	95	95	97	95	95	98	106	110	100
1972	96	98	101	102	102	104	101	102	104	113	119	106
1973	103	106	111	111	111	115	115	116	121	131	140	129
1974	126	127	133	137	142	143	143	142	148	161	171	154
1975	148	151	159	155	160	163	162					
1972	7	8	8	6	7	8	7	7	7	7	8	6
1973	7	8	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1974	—	—	—	24	28	24	24	22	23	22	22	20
1975	18	19	20	13	13	14	14					
At constant (1970) prices:												
1966	90	93	95	95	96	97	94	94	96	101	105	93
1967	91	93	95	96	97	97	95	96	98	104	107	96
1968	94	96	99	99	100	101	99	99	101	108	112	101
1969	98	100	103	103	104	104	102	100	102	109	114	102
1970	98	100	102	102	101	102	100	99	101	107	111	101
1971	95	97	99	99	98	99	96	96	99	107	111	100
1972	95	97	99	100	100	102	98	98	100	107	112	99
1973	96	99	103	108	111	114	112	112	116	124	131	120
1974	113	112	116	117	118	118	116	114	116	124	129	115
1975	108	109	112	107	109	109	108					
1972	—	—	—	1	2	2	2	2	1	—	1	−1
1973	1	2	4	9	11	13	15	14	17	16	17	20
1974	18	14	13	8	6	3	3	1	—	—	−1	−3
1975	−5	−3	−4	−8	−8	−7	−7					

1 The book value of retailers' stocks in the United Kingdom at end of December 1971 was £1,860 million.

2 With the introduction of VAT, the book values are being valued exclusive of this tax. There is, therefore, a discontinuity in the series in 1973 between March and April. For the year up to March, the usual comparisons with a year earlier for the book values series have not been given. As the basis of valuation is now comparable with that of a year earlier these percentages changes have been re-introduced. The estimates at constant prices take account of this method of valuation, and are on a consistent basis throughout.

3 The statistics given in Table 2 were introduced in an article in the issue of 28 March 1975.

TABLE 2 Value of physical increase of retailers' stocks at 1970 prices

Seasonally adjusted £ million

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
1966	11	12	−8	8	10	14	−8	8	−1	−2	−5	−23
1967	13	1	−19	32	8	5	7	21	−1	5	−9	−12
1968	31	−3	−1	−4	25	9	1	19	−8	11	6	−5
1969	15	2	1	1	12	−7	13	−18	−1	5	–	2
1970	−8	−3	−19	14	−19	9	8	−12	1	−9	3	5
1971	−14	−1	−17	2	−18	16	−8	4	12	18	−8	4
1972	−9	3	−12	9	4	20	−16	12	−12	8	8	−26
1973	26	16	9	88	55	42	18	8	21	5	23	23
1974	−7	−54	2	14	25	−12	18	−29	−3	−5	1	−18
1975	−27	−24	−6	−83	35	−4	24					

See footnote 2 to Table 1.

Statistics on retail trading in the North West

A statistical report on retail trading in the North West* is the sixth of 10 area analyses of information from the 1971 Census of Distribution and Other Services to be issued by the Business Statistics Office.

The statistics, covering Cheshire, Derbyshire (Buxton MB, Glossop MB, New Mills UD, Whaley Bridge UD and Chapel en le Frith RD only) and Lancashire, are based on the situation as it was in 1971 and do not take account of the changes under the Local Government Act 1972. They are concerned mainly with retail trading but include some information on hairdressing and footwear repairing. Detailed tables show retail outlets by kind of business and where possible, form of organisation for all towns in the North West with a population of 20,000 or more and where appropriate also for the town centres. There are total figures for each county and for the towns and rural areas within each county.

More detailed information for rural areas and for towns with smaller populations is available in a set of 88 special unpublished tables available at £1.25 plus VAT for up to five tables and 25p plus VAT for each additional table direct from the Business Statistics Office (Census of Distribution), Cardiff Road, Newport, Gwent NPT 1XG (tel. 0633 56111, ext. 2000), from whom further information about the Census may also be obtained.

* Business Monitor SD 20 available, price £2.25, from Her Majesty's Stationery Office bookshops, through booksellers or by mail order direct from HMSO, PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH.

Foreign arrivals in the United Kingdom during July

During July 1,129,000 foreign visitors, including all travellers from the EEC countries, arrived in the United Kingdom, according to figures issued by the Department of Trade and the British Tourist Authority. (This figure excludes visitors from the Irish Republic and Commonwealth citizens.) This represents an increase of 10 per cent over July 1974. The total number of arrivals in the first seven months was 4,057,000, 11 per cent up on the same period last year.

Arrivals in July from the EEC countries were 631,000, an increase of 13 per cent on last year, with the largest percentage increases being from Belgium/Luxembourg – up 25 per cent to 79,000 visitors; Netherlands – up 20 per cent to 108,000, and Denmark – up 19 per cent to 24,000. Total arrivals from EEC countries in the first seven months of the year amounted to 2,236,000, an increase of 13 per cent over the same period in 1974. The largest percentage increases were shown by Belgium/Luxembourg – up 19 per cent to 247,000; France – up 15 per cent to 730,000, and Netherlands – up 15 per cent to 372,000.

Arrivals from the rest of Western Europe in July (178,000) were also up, by 16 per cent. The largest percentage increases here were from Norway – up 38 per cent to 26,000 visitors; Spain – up 28 per cent to 35,000, and Austria – up 24 per cent to 21,000.

The number of visitors from the rest of the world (320,000) were up by 4 per cent in July. Visitors from the United States (178,000) showed a decrease of 6 per cent from July 1974, but from the remaining countries (142,000) there was an increase of 19 per cent. Total arrivals from the rest of the world in the first seven months of the year amounted to 1,211,000, an increase of 4 per cent over the same period in 1974.

Notes

The figures in the table are limited to foreign nationals, excluding Commonwealth citizens and citizens of the Irish Republic.

For non-EEC countries visitors entering for a stay of under one year are shown while, for EEC countries, total arrivals are shown irrespective of their purposes of visit or length of stay. This follows the entry of the United Kingdom into the EEC, since when citizens of Community countries are generally admitted to the United Kingdom without having to state their purpose of visit, or expected length of stay.

Seasonally adjusted figures: Simple comparisons of monthly figures between one year and another, or between adjacent months can be misleading. The seasonally adjusted figures provide a better basis for comparison with other months, or for judging current trends. In estimating the seasonal adjustments allowance has been made for changes in the seasonal pattern, which have been in the direction of a spreading of the tourist season, with some reduction in the summer peak relative to the rest of the year. Adjustment was also made for the effect of the varying date of Easter on numbers of Western European visitors.

The seasonally adjusted series are liable to revision when subsequent figures become available and should therefore, for the most recent months, be viewed with caution.

Foreign arrivals

Thousands per month

	Total arrivals from EEC countries (excluding Irish Republic)		Foreign visitors from non-EEC countries: Rest of Western Europe (non-EEC)		United States		Other foreign countries		Total non-EEC countries	
1967	126		30		70		23		123	
1968	144		34		73		29		136	
1969	174		40		95		35		170	
1970	199		47		117		41		205	
1971	214		53		129		46		228	
1972	232		59		134		51		244	
1973	265		70		131		62		263	
1974	280		75		107		68		250	
	UA	SA	UA	SA	UA	SA	UA	SA	UA	SA
1974										
January	141	263	38	70	50	114	40	64	128	248
February	132	265	38	70	42	114	35	67	115	251
March	216	273	53	73	68	108	52	71	173	252
April	320	273	79	75	95	109	52	66	226	250
May	295	281	63	70	121	100	62	62	246	232
June	313	281	96	75	160	106	83	69	338	250
July	560	280	154	75	189	103	120	70	463	248
August	458	294	93	76	167	103	111	67	371	246
September	298	287	86	84	159	108	96	68	342	260
October	243	281	77	76	103	105	70	69	249	250
November	188	302	62	80	69	106	49	76	180	262
December	196	281	58	76	58	103	52	70	168	249
1975										
January	164	304	45	83	50	112	53	79	148	274
February	166	327	49	88	44	115	49	92	142	295
March	323	302	82	91	68	106	69	92	219	289
April	264	301	69	81	82	92	61	75	212	248
May	346	312	79	83	114	93	70	69	263	245
June	342	305	109	84	143	93	89	74	340	249
July	631	315	178	86	178	98	142	82	498	266
Jan.-July 1974	1,977		521		724		443		1,688	
Jan.-July 1975	2,236		610		677		533		1,821	

Total arrivals = all persons admitted, including long-stay and short-stay visitors from EEC countries
Foreign visitors = all persons entering for visits of under one year from non-EEC countries excluding Commonwealth countries.
UA = unadjusted. SA = seasonally adjusted. Source: Home Office.

Registrations of British, Community and foreign films

The following are details of films registered by the Department of Trade under the Films Acts 1960 to 1970, as amended by the European Communities Act 1972, during the week ended Friday, 19 September 1975.
BR/E indicates that the film is a British quota film, EC that the film is a quota film. The date which forms part of the registration number of each is the date on which quota life of the film expires.

Title of film	Registered no.	Playing time minutes	Date of registration	Registered in the name of	Maker's name
			BRITISH		
Betcher	BR/E 38245/20/9/80	14	15 September	Children's Film Foundation Ltd.	World Wide Pictures
Mind How You Go	BR/E 38246/20/9/80	13	15 September	Children's Film Foundation Ltd.	Balfour Films
The Romantic Englishwoman	BR/E 38250c/20/9/80	116	18 September	Fox-Rank Distributors Ltd.	Dial Films Ltd., Farnham, Royal, and Les Productions Meric-Matalon,SA, Paris
Movietone News 2415	BR/E 38130/20/9/80	8	19 September	British Movietonews Ltd.	British Movietonews Ltd.
			COMMUNITY		
The Execution	EC 38247/20/9/80	87	16 September	Fox-Rank Distributors Ltd.	Delta Commerz-Filmprod GmbH, West Berlin, and Willy Gafny Ltd., Tel Aviv
			FOREIGN		
Rollerball	F 38248	125	16 September	United Artists Corporation Ltd.	Algonquin Films Ltd., London
Three Days Of The Condor	F 38249	118	18 September	Cinema International Corporation (UK)	Dino De Laurentiis Corporation, New York
The Reincarnation Of Peter Proud	F 38251	106	19 September	Fox-Rank Distributors Ltd.	Bing Crosby Productions, California

Government Sales

Ministry of Defence

1 and 2 October 1975 Vehicles, earth moving and lifting equipment

Location: Ordnance Storage and Disposals Depot, RAOC, Ruddington, Notts

Auctioneers: Walker, Walton and Hanson (Dept. L), Byard Lane, Bridlesmith Gate, Nottingham NG1 2GL (tel. 0602 54272)

Vehicles and plant including 445 saloons, limousines, estate cars, minibuses and light vans, 275 Land Rovers, motor cycles, 250 commercial vehicles including heavy duty trucks and tractors by AEC, Leyland and Scammell, 80 trailers (10 cwt-20 ton), refuellers, fire tenders, Leyland breakdown truck with hydraulic telescopic recovery crane, tractors by Bray, David Brown, Ferguson and Gainsborough, mobile cranes, fork-lift trucks, scrapers, GMC amphibious DUKWs, six Bedford RL vans fitted diesel generators, mobile welding plants. The majority of the vehicles are sold as single lots.

2 October 1975 Household furniture and other stores

Location: RAF Thorney Island, Emsworth, Hants PO10 8DG

Auctioneers: Stride and Son (Dept. L), Southdown House, St. Johns Street, Chichester PO19 1XQ (tel. 0243 82626/7)

The sale will comprise various items of household furniture and other stores, to be sold in single and small lots. This is the first of the 'closing down' sales from this station.

8 October 1975 Miscellaneous Stores

Location: The Memorial Hall, High Street, Chatham, Kent

Auctioneers: Fuller, Horsey Sons and Cassell (Dept. L), 52 Bow Lane, London EC4M 9ET

Vehicles including Bedford and Austin ambulances, Morris Oxford estate, Austin Gipsy personnel carriers, Ford Thames box vans, Land Rover, two mobile cranes, fork-lift truck, machine tools, MT spares, generators, electric motors, hoists, petrol engines, roller bearings, electronic equipment, drawing boards, stands and instruments, hand tools, wrist watches and clocks, furniture, carpets and rugs, DMS and other boots, blankets, clothing, woollen and mixed rags, kitchen utensils and a large collection of other miscellaneous stores.

Catalogues for the above sales which give details of the lots, conditions of sale, viewing times, etc., are available from the auctioneer from two weeks before and up to the day of the sale, price 10p (postal orders only).

Sale by Tender

Monforts Single Spindle Vertical Chucking Auto, Type VA 630, Serial No. 2-4-9846. Year of manufacture, 1970. Plug board sequence control. Heller electrical and hydraulic system. Multi-tool automatic on two slides. Copy attachment on left-hand slide. Max. turning dia. 33.46 in. 50 hp motor. Swarf conveyor and electric hoist.

Applications for tender forms to: Stores Office, ROF Leeds, Old Manston Lane, Crossgates, Leeds LS15 8ST.

Wembley Auction Sales 1975/76

7 October 1975

View Days:	Day preceding and morning of sale
Location:	Department of the Environment Property Services Agency Supplies Division Store India Pavilion Exhibition Grounds Wembley, Middx. Tel. 01-903 2508
Description of Goods:	Office and Miscellaneous Furniture Engineering, Electrical, Canteen, Domestic and Other Equipment
Auctioneers:	Messrs. Fuller, Horsey, Sons and Cassell 52 Bow Lane London EC4M 9ET Tel. 01-248 7954
Catalogue:	Direct from the auctioneer price 10p each

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Her Majesty's Stationery Office will continue to handle all circulation and distribution matters and subscription inquiries, and queries should continue to be addressed to them.

Index to statistics and organisational information published regularly in 'Trade and Industry'

A = annually M = monthly Q = quarterly 6M = every six months.

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Air transport: trade by air (6M)	16 May 1975
Balance of payments:	
current account (M)	19 Sept. 1975
trends in invisible transactions (Q)	24 Oct. 1974
(*see also* Overseas trade of the UK)	
Bankruptcies *see* Insolvencies	
Business names and limited partnerships (A)	30 Jan. 1975
Capital expenditure: manufacturing, distributive and service industries (Q)	5 Sept. 1975
Catering trades turnover (M)	19 Sept. 1975
Census of production (A)	19 Dec. 1974
(amendment)	16 Jan. 1975
Chemicals industry activity (Q)	This week
Companies:	
acquisitions and mergers (Q)	15 Aug. 1975
insolvencies (Q)	1 Aug. 1975
liquidity (Q)	12 Sept. 1975
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Gt. Britain (M)	19 Sept. 1975
N. Ireland (M)	5 Sept. 1975
Construction work overseas (A)	22 Aug. 1975
EEC economic indicators	29 Aug. 1975
Energy trends (M)	5 Sept. 1975
Engineering industries: sales and orders (M)	This week
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British Film Fund Agency returns (M)	5 Sept. 1975
cinema admissions and takings (M)	5 Sept. 1975
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(*see also* Overseas trade of the UK)	
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deliveries (Q)	5 Sept. 1975
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hosiery production (M)	This week
made-up clothing: orders and deliveries (M)	19 Sept. 1975
wholesale houses' sales (M)	22 Aug. 1975
wool exports (Q)	20 June 1975
wool output (M)	19 Sept. 1975
Tourism:	
foreign visitor arrivals (M)	This week
overseas travel and tourism (A)	7 Mar. 1975
Wholesale prices:	
average prices of selected commodities (A)	13 June 1975
index numbers (M)	19 Sept. 1975

Departmental organisations, etc.

Subjects	Last published
British commercial representations overseas	4 Apr. 1975
Customs notices of interest to exporters	12 Sept. 1975
ECGD local offices	12 Sept. 1975
Guide to Departments	11 July 1975
Official Receivers' offices	21 Mar. 1975
Programme of trade promotions	15 Aug. 1975
Release dates of economic statistics	This week

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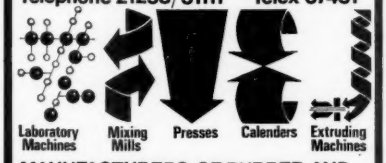

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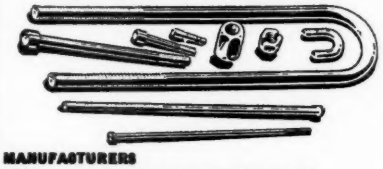

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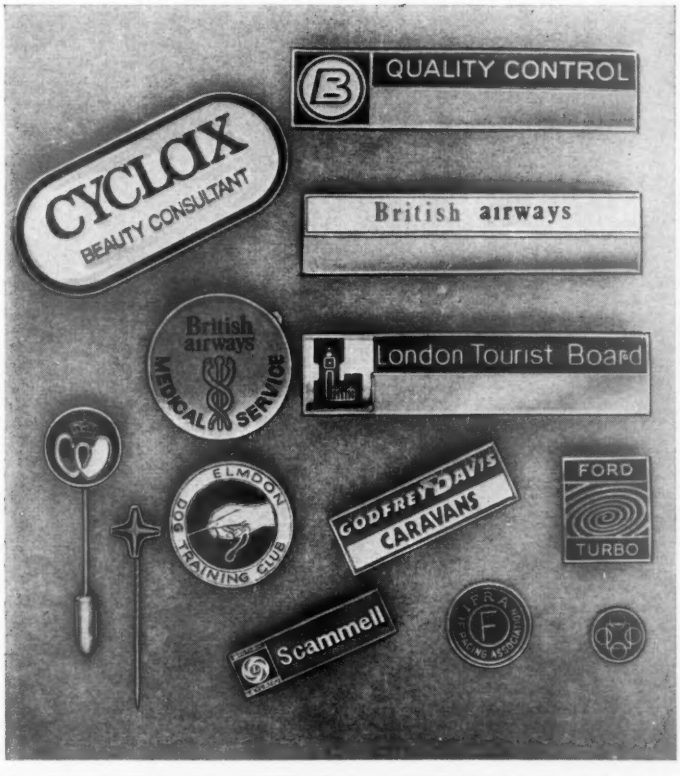

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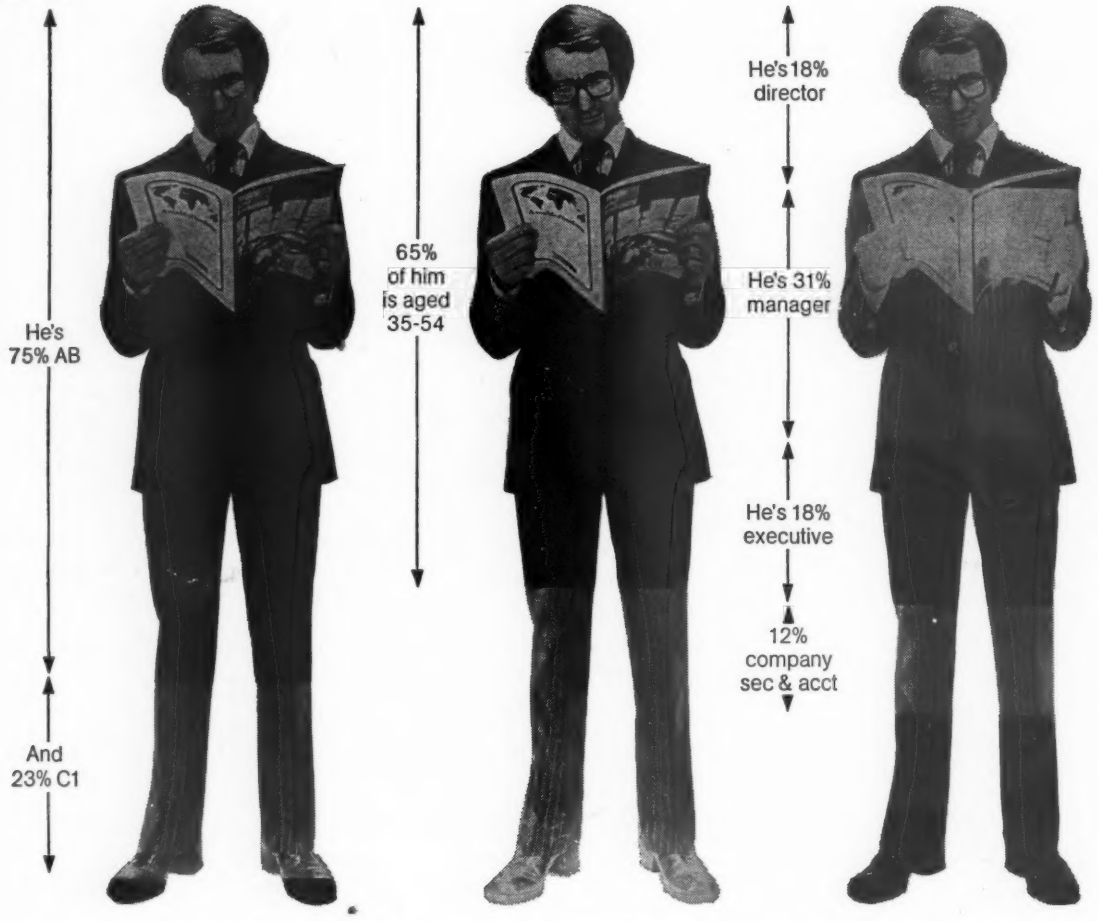

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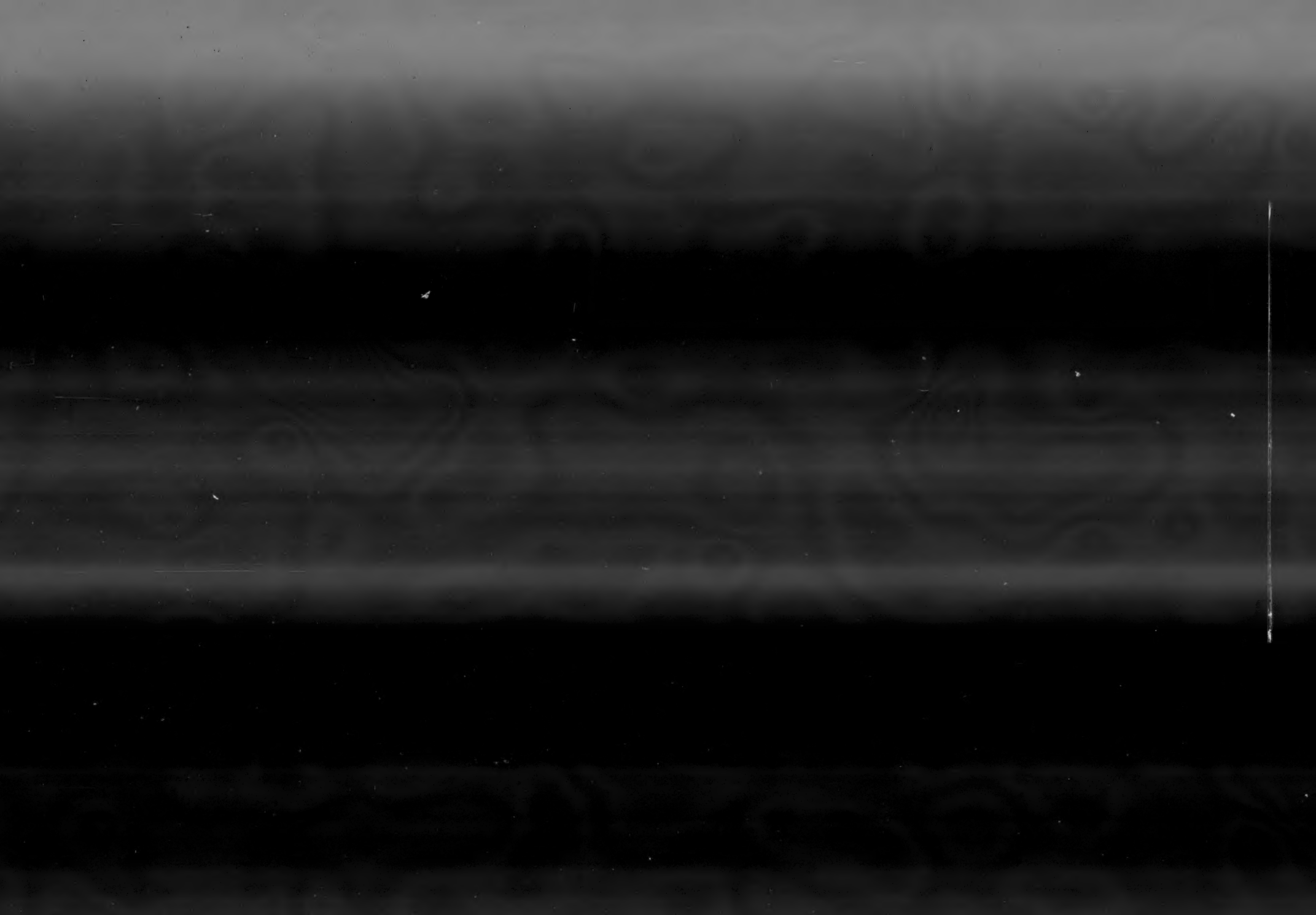
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